マイ・フェア・ネイバー
my fair neighbor
the ecstasy loves
couple who live
next door
森野萌
presented by
megumi morino
KC DESSERT

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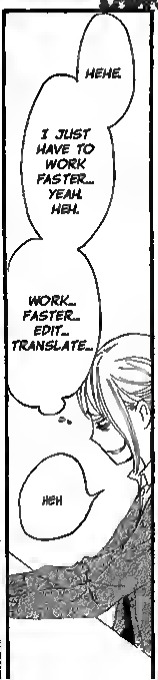

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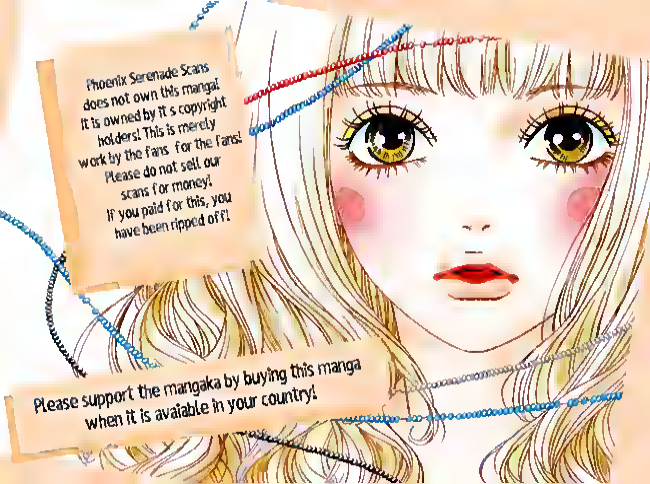
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マイ・フェア・ネイバー

my fair neighbor

presented by megumi morino

森野萌

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my fair neighbor

The story about a couple who live next door

megumi morino

I quickly realised this was a dream.
WAAAH
WAAAH
Because I'm already 28 and haven't worn my school uniform in a long time.
I don't have blond hair or piercings anymore and I don't get into fights either.

The neighbor I fell off the balcony with on that day moved away a long time ago.
So this is a dream.
An old memory.

Spring

HM...
Oi..
MO...
zzz
hmm
MOMO
zzz
WHEN DID YOU GET THIS HEAVY ?
!!
JUMP
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
click
12
1
6
5

Oh, Yuki-chan, morning ..
Sorry, I fell asleep ..
Smack!
GYAA!
smile
Momo ...
chirp
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
BECAUSE WE'VE BEEN FRIENDS FOR SO LONG I'LL HEAR YOU OUT...
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
Er...
Erm... I'm sorry, I...
After I finished making your breakfast, I didn't have anything to do until you woke up and... I fell asleep ..

ENTERiNG
grab
RIGHT?
BREAKiNG
AND
BE MORE POLITE TO PEOPLE OLDER THAN YOU!!
Oh!!
ALSO THIS IS THAT RIGHT?
Huh?
COMING INTO SOMEONE ELSE'S ROOM EVERYDAY...
DID YOU MOVE INTO MY HOUSE!?
I moved in next door!!
reach
cover
ANYWAY, WHERE DID YOU GET THE KEY...?
I wanted to talk to you about that.
Hiding a key under a plant pot in front of your door is not very safe!
Uh-oh.
Gyaa!
Momo is the kid who lived in the apartment next door when I was in high school.

She liked me a lot then,
But because of the incident that happened in my 3rd year of high school, she moved away.
But about a month ago, she moved back on her own to go to the school here.
That's fine and all...
CLATTER
BUT WHY IS SHE CLINGING TO ME SO MUCH?
SAKURA, open
I THOUGHT I'D FIND YOU IN THE OFFICE
I made you something to eat
It's in your dresser at the back of the second drawer down
Huh where's my tie?
Let's walk together!

A CUSTOMER ?
YOU CAN DO THAT LATER! YOU'VE GOT A CUSTOMER.
I I M SORRY I WAS TRAINING A NEW EMPLOYEE THIS MORNING SO I WAS VERY BUSY.
DIDN'T I TELL YOU THAT YOU SHOULD BE RESTING DURING YOUR BREAK? YOU WORK TOO MUCH!
Er...
Erm...
I forgot to give this to you this morning
Me?
Yes!
FIRST, SHALL WE TALK INSIDE?
CUSTOMER
And I made it for you ..
Sakura

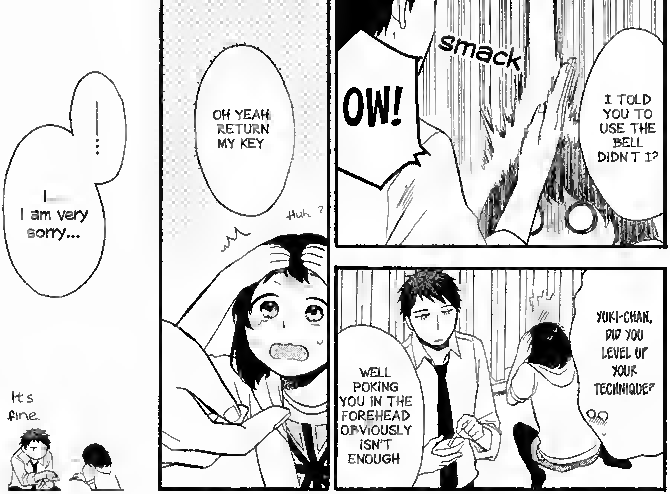
SHUT
WHAT ABOUT SCHOOL?
STOP CHATTING AND GET BACK TO WORK.
whisper
That all-girls school!
AND THAT UNIFORM IS FROM THE BEST SCHOOL IN THE PREFECTURE!
whisper
A FEMALE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT GIVING HIM A HAND-MADE BENTO!!
SHE'S GIVING IT TO THAT SAKURA WHO'S UNSOCIABLE AND NEVER SMILES WHEN HE'S NOT SERVING CUSTOMERS!
I slipped out during lunch break...
But I'll be back in time for class
scared
DID I ASK YOU TO DO THIS?
shake
.....
DO YOU HAVE ANY SELF-AWARENESS OF THE RULES YOU'VE BROKEN WITH YOUR SELFISH ACTIONS?
.....

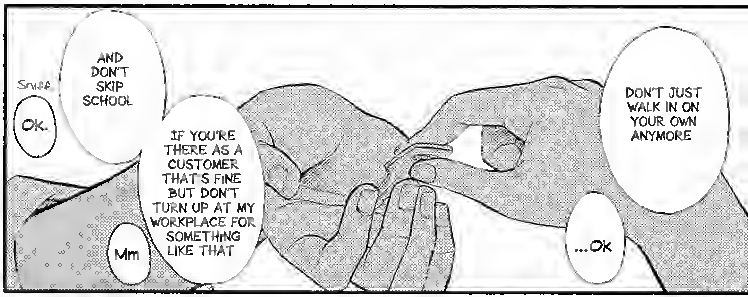
WELL, WHEN I WAS AT SCHOOL I DIDN'T LISTEN TO PEOPLE EITHER, BUT
gloom
DON'T CAUSE PROBLEMS TO YOUR SCHOOL AND MY WORKPLACE
THIS IS TOO MUCH
I'VE PUT A FEW THINGS FROM OUR TAKE OUT MENU IN THERE
GIVES
Hump 115
WHAT TIME DOES YOUR BREAK END?
WAIT IN FRONT OF THE SHOP FOR THREE MINUTES
YOU START CRYING IF YOU GET HUNGRY RIGHT?
EVEN IF YOU GO BACK NOW YOU WON'T HAVE TIME TO EAT, SO EAT THAT WHILE YOU WALK
LUNCH

I...
I'm not a kid anymore!
HUH, THAT GIRL IS STALKING YOU!?
Really?
SHE DOES DO SOME PRETTY INTERESTING THINGS SOMETIMES THOUGH
What?
NO IT'S NOT THAT BAD
IS THAT SO
?
EARLIER, WHILE SHE WAS WAITING FOR YOU, SHE ASKED ABOUT YOU.
SHE WONDERED IF IT SEEMS LIKE YOU'RE ENJOYING YOUR JOB AND SO ON.

REJECT HER PROPERLY ?
I FEEL SORRY FOR HER, DOING ALL THAT WITHOUT REALLY EXPECTING ANYTHING IN RETURN
YEAH GET YOURSELF TO DO IT!
Expecting?
IF IT'S BOTHERING OU, SHOULDN'T YOU REJECT HER PROPERLY?
She liked me from the start, right?
"YUKI-CHAN, YUKI-CHAN!"
"DID YOU FIGHT AGAIN TODAY?"

OH YEAH, AT THAT TIME I...
It's cold. Why don't we go inside?
Yuki-chan,
HUH...
YOU...


I... I am very sorry...
OH YEAH RETURN MY KEY
Huh ?
smack
OW!
I TOLD YOU TO USE THE BELL DIDN'T I?
YUKI-CHAN, DID YOU LEVEL UP YOUR TECHNIQUE?
WELL POKING YOU IN THE FOREHEAD OBVIOUSLY ISN'T ENOUGH
It's fine.


Sniff
Ok.
AND DON'T SKIP SCHOOL
Mm
IF YOU'RE THERE AS A CUSTOMER THAT'S FINE BUT DON'T TURN UP AT MY WORKPLACE FOR SOMETHING LIKE THAT
...Ok
DON'T JUST WALK IN ON YOUR OWN ANYMORE

SURE
Thanks!
Oh, yeah! The food you gave me was really good!

MOMO. DO YOU REMEMBER THE TIME WE FIRST MET?
YOU'D BEEN SCOLDED BY YOUR MOTHER AND SHUT OUT ON THE BALCONY
AND I'D BEEN FIGHTING WITH MY DAD AND WAS EATING OUT HERE
rumble rumble
I IGNORED YOU COMPLETELY BUT EVENTUALLY YOU STARTED CRYING
A history of having to feed her
I DIDN'T HAVE A CHOICE SO I HAD TO GIVE YOU MY HALF-EATEN FOOD, AND AFTER THAT YOU STARTED TO LIKE ME
I'M SORRY, I DON'T REMEMBER!
What I remember is...
SOMETHING THAT HAPPENED TEN YEARS AGO WOULD BE HARD TO REMEMBER
YEAH I SUPPOSE,

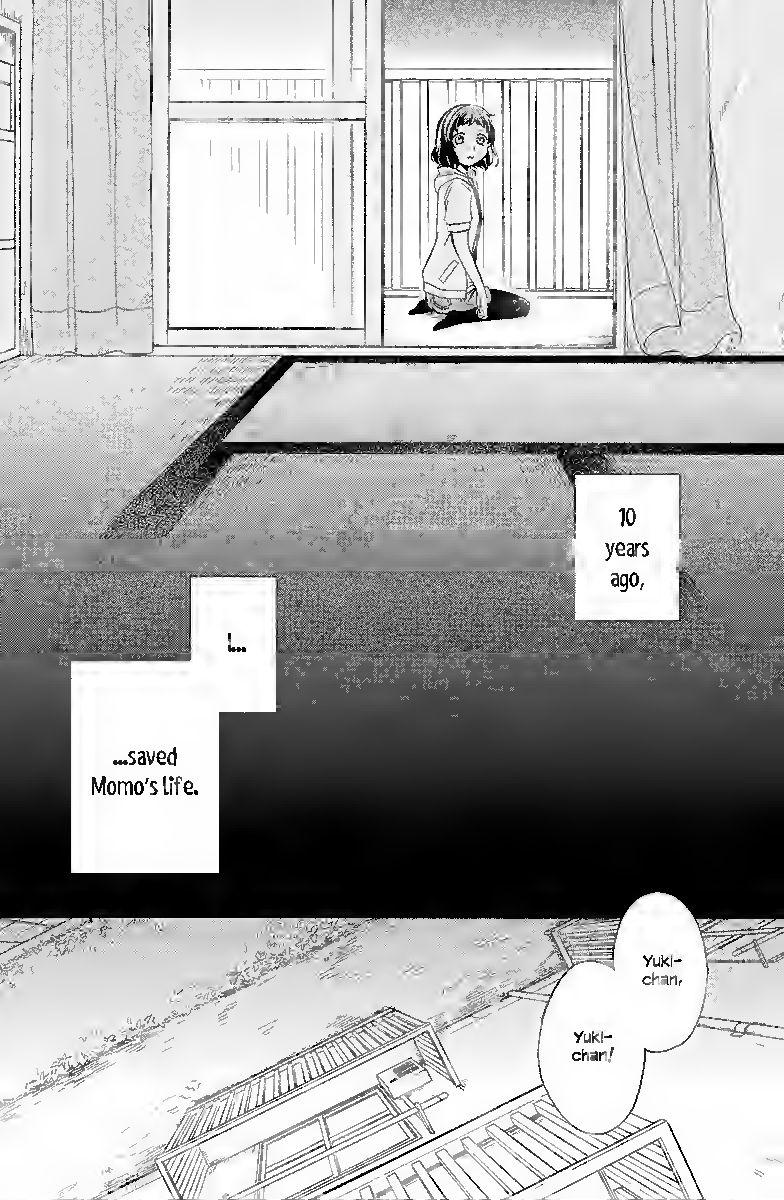
DO YOU LIKE ME?
HEY MOMO,
…?

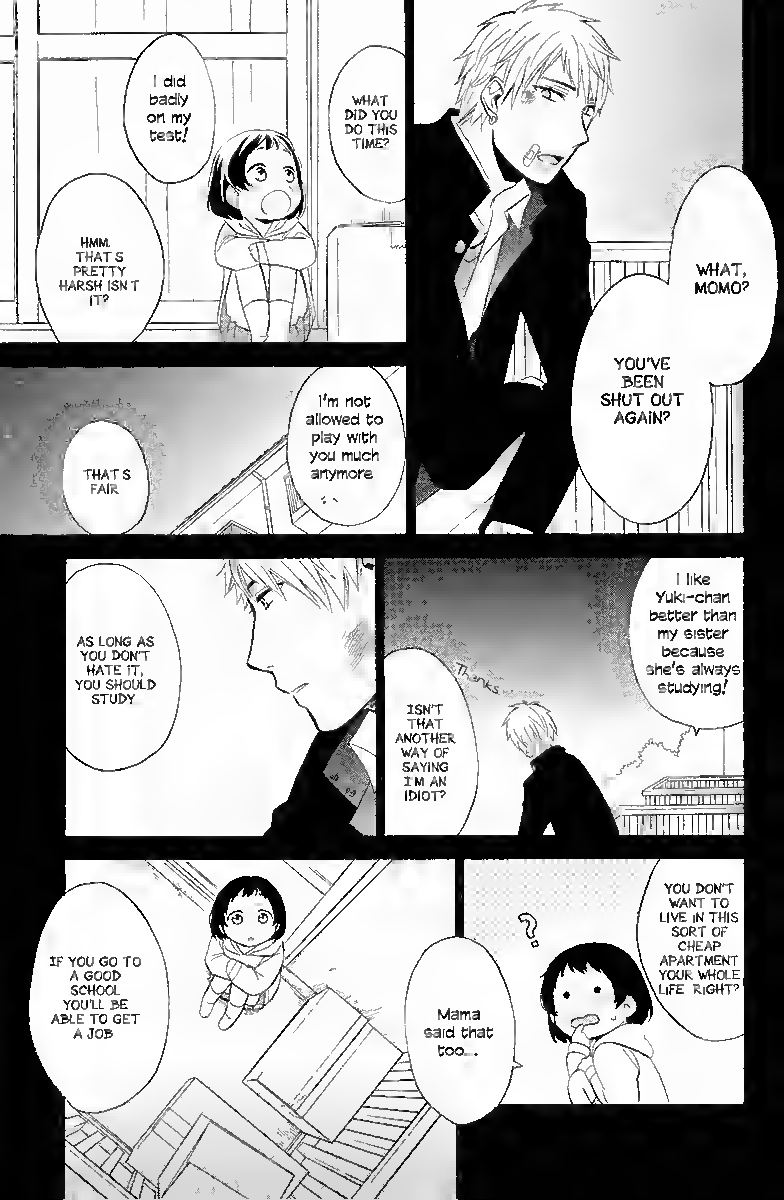
I like you!
?
Yeah.

SORRY FOR ASKING YOU SOMETHING STRANGE YOU SHOULD GO HOME NOW
SO NOW ALL I CAN DO IS
THERE'S REALLY NO NEED TO GO THIS FAR FOR SOMETHING YOU DON'T EVEN REMEMBER

THANKS
I WAS RIGHT

DON'T CONCERN YOURSELF WITH ME ANYMORE
Huh?
EVEN THOUGH YOU'VE GIVEN ME BACK MY KEY YOU'RE STILL PLANNING TO MAKE ME DINNER AND STUFF AREN'T YOU?
I'VE GOT NO REASON TO KEEP ACCEPTING ANYTHING FROM YOU
If...
If it's a reason..!
.....
WHATEVER REASON YOU'VE GOT, FOLLOWING ME AROUND ALL THE TIME,
THAT'S JUST FOR YOUR OWN SATISFACTION
IT'S A PAIN.


10 years ago,
!...
...saved Momo's life.
Yuki-chan,
Yuki-chan!


I did badly on my test!
WHAT DID YOU DO THIS TIME?
HMM. THAT'S PRETTY HARSH ISN'T IT?
WHAT, MOMO?
YOU'VE BEEN SHUT OUT AGAIN?
I'm not allowed to play with you much anymore
THAT'S FAIR
I like Yuki-chan better than my sister because she's always studying!
Thanks
ISN'T THAT ANOTHER WAY OF SAYING I'M AN IDIOT?
AS LONG AS YOU DON'T HATE IT, YOU SHOULD STUDY
YOU DON'T WANT TO LIVE IN THIS SORT OF CHEAP APARTMENT YOUR WHOLE LIFE RIGHT?
Mama said that too...
IF YOU GO TO A GOOD SCHOOL YOU'LL BE ABLE TO GET A JOB

HUFF
HUFF
YOU NEED TO BE ABLE TO LIVE ON YOUR OWN
!?
HEHE I'M COPYING YOU
WHAT ARE YOU ALWAYS LOOKING AT?
TCH!! IDIOT, IT'S DANGEROUS, GET DOWN!
SLIP

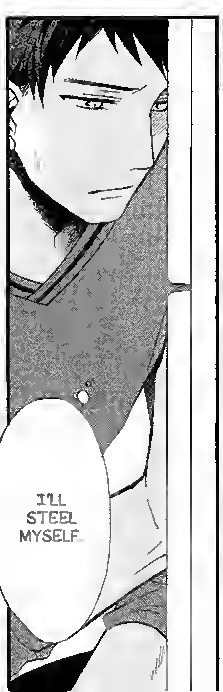
Saying I saved her life is an exaggeration.
We just both ended up falling somehow.
My body acted as a cushion for her by chance and Momo wasn't injured.
So if this is her "reason"...

If this is her way of atoning for that accident, she's missed the point,
And besides, I'm also partly responsible for it...
...and my injuries weren't anything serious.

SHE'S NOT HERE

HAS SHE PUT ANYTHING IN HERE?

Phew
NO
shut


I'LL STEEL MYSELF.

"Was I..."

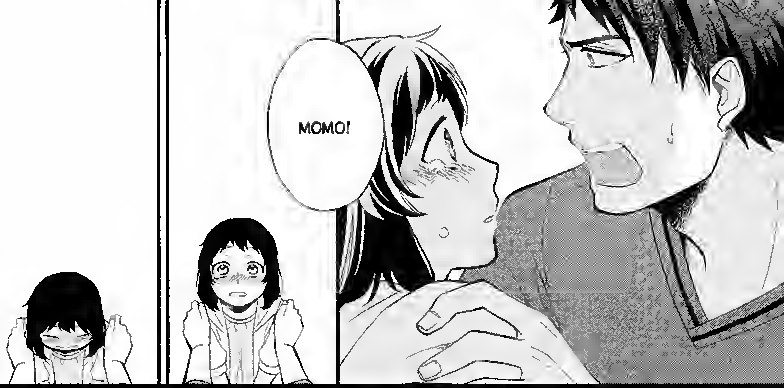
SSHH
"...that much of a bother?"
I'VE BEEN LIVING ON MY OWN FOR 10 YEARS. I'VE GOT USED TO HOUSEWORK AND I'VE GOT A JOB
HMPH
DO I REALLY SEEM LIKE SUCH A HELPLESS ADULT THAT I NEED A SCHOOL KID TO LOOK AFTER ME?
I'VE FINALLY STRAIGHTENED MYSELF OUT
So why were you...
...Looking at me like that?

I just want to live normally.
SLUMP
patter
MY WASHING...
AH!

AH, DAMN...
Yuki-chan!
You can't!!

HEY MOMO !?
TCH!!
I WON'T FOLLOW YOU AROUND ANYMORE
SO DON'T JUMP!
Hug
WHAT ARE YOU
RRY
I'M SORRY!

You weren't thinking about jumping...?
Huh?
HUH...
WHAT!?
Oh...
cry
OF COURSE NOT
.....
Oh...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
THIS ISN'T NORMAL.
MOMO?
SOB


MOMO!

I'm sorry.

When I was thinking about where to go to school...my mum started talking about you.
She said that your father hadn't even gone to high school so he hadn't been able to find a job
So your mother left him.
...and you two always fought.
"YOU DON'T WANT TO BECOME LIKE THAT, RIGHT?"

For me, what she said...
No it wasn't that
After I heard that I started to think about the past a bit...
I suddenly thought about something
What if the reason Yuki-chan was always on the balcony,
The reason he was always looking down...
...was because he had always wanted to jump from there?

If...
If I'm wrong that's fine..
SO,
YOU THOUGHT MAYBE I WAS STILL THINKING LIKE THAT?
But... you saved me, so if perhaps,
You had been living all this time thinking that it's pointless
If you had those sorts of awful thoughts...

SO THAT'S THE REASON YOU'VE BEEN HANGING AROUND ME?
...
flinch
YOU IDIOT
Yuki..
...chan?
Rub
Rub
WHY DOES A KID LIKE YOU HAVE SUCH WEIRD WORRIES?

AT THAT TIME. THIS CERTAINLY WAS THE PLACE I RAN TO WHEN BEING IN THE HOUSE WAS TOO DIFFICULT
AND I HAD SOME PESSIMISTIC THOUGHTS,
BUT IT S BEEN 10 YEARS AND I VE ALREADY PASSED THROUGH THAT STAGE OF MY LIFE
push
ANYWAY
ISN T THAT BECAUSE OF YOU?
Me ,P
BECAUSE YOU WOULD FOLLOW ME AROUND LIKE A LITTLE CHICK,
ALWAYS SAYING "YUKI-CHAN, YUKI-CHAN "

BECAUSE YOU WERE LOOKING AT ME, I REALLY WANTED TO PROPERLY TRY.
No! That was just me feeling uneasy all by myself!
Ah!
Sigh
SO FINDING OUT THAT YOU WERE THINKING OF ME LIKE THAT,
IT'S A REAL SHOCK
I think the adult Yuki-chan is really cool!
And I was really happy to meet you again after all this time-
Mmph!

I'M FINE
SO YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY
Huh?
??
I GET IT, I GET IT!
ANYWAY USE YOUR BRAIN A LITTLE!
WELL WHAT I WANT TO SAY IS
.....
Ok!
What an embarrassing conversation.

The day that Momo and I fell from the balcony...
...was the day that my selfish father was not here.
What did you do this time?
I did it only on my test!

The truth is, I really did intend to jump then.

But falling from the 2nd floor wouldn't have killed me
And because you were crying "Don't die!" so much...
I couldn't help but be happy...
Even if I'm only important to just this small child

pull
Even though I decided that...
I'll try again.
So I don't feel ashamed in front of her,
I'll become a good adult.

I GUESS I'M NOT THERE YET?
WHAT SORT OF FACE IS THAT?
SMILE
TIME FOR WORK
chirp
chirp
OPEN
Oh!

MOMO?
menacing
Eek!
Ah, no I'm sorry...!
But I didn't know what to do to get things back to normal
Well, after yesterday I'm not worried anymore.
So I made this...
But it really is...
A bother, huh?
ASKING ME LIKE THAT ISN'T IT REALLY UNFAIR?
...
Huh?
Ah!

THIS IS FINE!
JUST GREET ME
...LIKE YOU DID WHEN YOU WERE A KID!
It's an embarrassing conversation but,
I GUESS
AS LONG AS YOU DON'T HAVE A BOYFRIEND I CAN AT LEAST ACCEPT A BENTO FROM YOU

It'd be good if you didn't have to worry from now on.
I'll become a reliable adult,
and I won't make you cry again.
Oh yeah
I'LL SAY THIS AS A TIP FOR NEXT TIME
YOUR COOKING IS A BIT BLAND
After all my neighbor...
CLACK
Huh!?
...is too cute for me not to do this much.

TO BE CONTINUED

MY FAIR NEIGHBOR
CHAPTER 2

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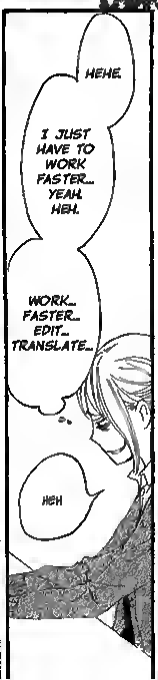

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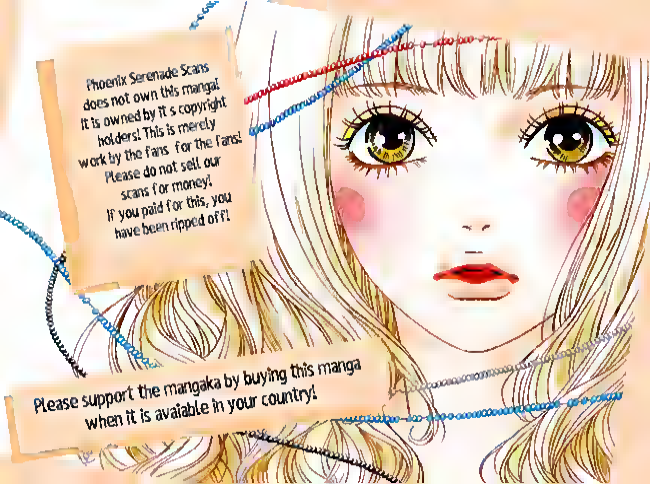
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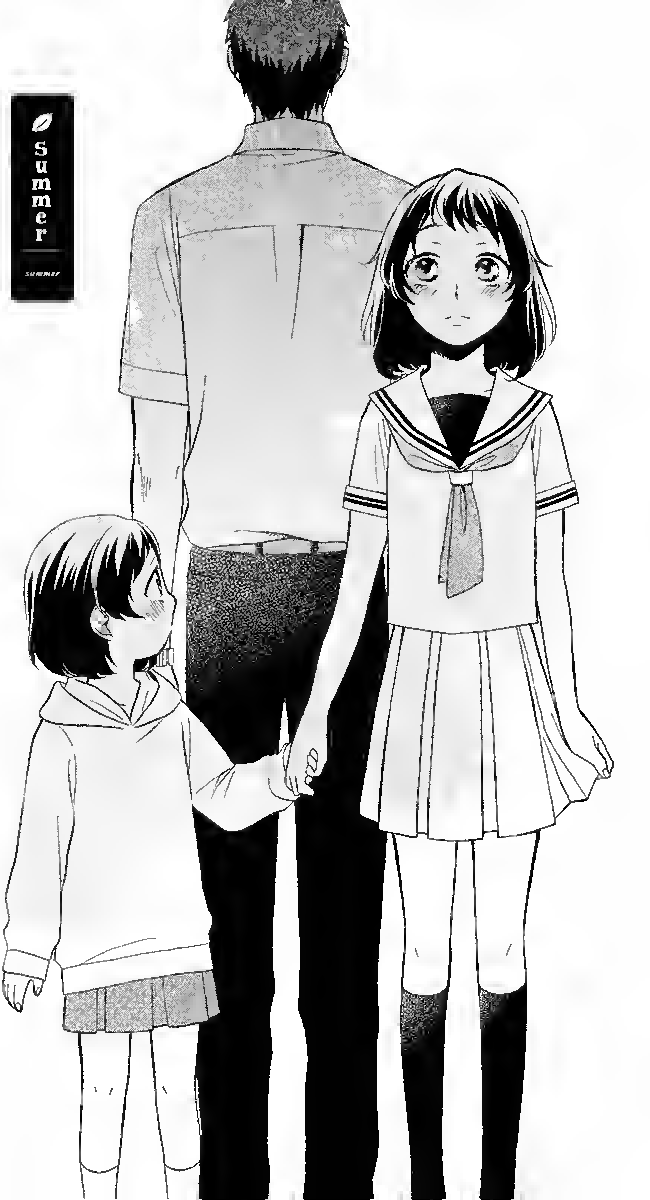

Summer
SUMMER

Talking to each other from our verandas, and going to play in his room,
How he would give me candy when I cried, and pat me on the head,
How he saved my life...
I don't really remember a lot about Yuki-chan from 10 years ago.
How back then, being by his side was the most comfortable place to me.

YUKi
-CHAN!
STRESSED
And now, 10 years later...
OH, HEY MOMO.
HOW DID IT GO?
Shiiiine
It's a good thing I got in line even before the store opened... I got the last baaaaag!
JAPANESE BARGAIN GOODS SUGAR FOR 80 YEN
Alright
IF YOU CAN SUCCEED IN A COMPETITION LIKE THAT, I GUESS I DON'T NEED TO WORRY ABOUT YOU.
Roo
ooo
AR

Sorry for asking you to come with me so early in the morning
IT'S NO PROBLEM WE LIVE NEXT DOOR, SO FEEL FREE TO RELY ON ME FOR THINGS LIKE THIS
ANYWAY, WHY DO YOU KEEP ASKING ME ABOUT THE CHEAPEST PLACES?
THE ONE NEAR BY IS NO GOOD?
This place is fair but?
THUMP
U-Umm... Living alone is because of my own selfishness, so...
I don't want to cost them any more money than necessary
Okay.
...even now.
I ADMIRE YOUR INTENTIONS, BUT DON'T PUSH YOURSELF TOO HARD
WAHH?!
THWINK

BZZZZZZ
HEY, WHY ARE YOU SO DRESSED UP TO GO TO THE GROCERY STORE?
Your hair's all messed up, too
UWHA!
ARE YOU JUST AT THAT AGE...?
YOUR UNIFORM'S SKIRT IS REALLY SHORT ALL OF A SUDDEN, TOO.
BZZZZZZ
HAGIWARA
ARE EVERYONE'S LIKE THAT?
BZZZZZZ
I-Is it weird...?
NOT WEIRD REALLY, BUT I HAVE TO BE CAREFUL OF WHERE I'M LOOKING.
Is... is that so...? Hmm...
OH YEAH, I NEED TO RETURN YOUR BENTO BOX.
AND THE MONEY FOR THE ING..EDI-ENTS.
CLANK
CLANK
CLANK

HM?
Oh,
How were the boiled vegetables this time-
!
TWITCH
MOMO.
M-Mom...

HERE
THESE ARE SOME CLOTHES YOUR SISTER SAID SHE DOESN'T WANT ANYMORE
SFX: RUSTLE
softly
I had asked Onee-chan to bring them...
WELL?
WHY IS THAT PERSON LIVING NEXT DOOR?
YOU WERE TOGETHER JUST NOW
THAT'S THE SAKURA BOY WHO LIVED THERE BEFORE, RIGHT?
YOU SAID YOU JUST WANTED TO LIVE SOMEWHERE YOU WERE USED TO,
BUT DID YOU REALLY CHOOSE THIS PLACE BECAUSE OF HIM?

Yuki... Sakura-san has *really* changed! He doesn't fight anymore...
And he's working hard at his job! It's at a restaurant two train stations away, and their pancakes are famous.
It-It's a coincidence...
I realized it...
After I moved in...
U-
UM!!

COME SIT OVER HERE.
FWIP
MOMOKO.
Come to think of it, they have another location closer by-

!
NOW I UNDERSTAND,
WHY YOUR MIDTERM SCORES WERE SO TERRIBLE
.....

HAVE YOU BEEN IRRE-SPONSIBLY PLAYING AROUND WITH THE NEIGHBOR?
I HADN'T HEARD FROM YOU AT ALL, SO I CONTACTED YOUR TEACHER
CLENCH
YOU'RE WRONG!
IT'S GOOD THAT YOU'RE AWARE OF YOUR ACTIONS
BUT IF YOU CAN'T FOCUS ON YOUR STUDIES THEN I NEED TO RETHINK ALLOWING YOU TO LIVE ON YOUR OWN
I've just been following him around! Don't talk about him like that
Y-Yuki-chan is...
A proper adult...!

W-
No...
PLEASE, WAIT...!
Please...
Give me another chance!
CLACK

!
Yuki-chan!
Are you leaving already?
Make sure to comment me please ♥
ARE YOU GOING TO WORK NOW?
YES, I HAVE THE LATE SHIFT TODAY
I'M SAKURA I CAUSED YOU A LOT OF TROUBLE IN THE PAST
BOW
I APOLOGIZE THAT I WASN'T ABLE TO GREET YOU PROPERLY BEFORE
BASICALLY
...I'M FULL TIME, BUT NOT A REGULAR EMPLOYEE YET
DO YOU WORK FULL TIME?
MOM!

BZZZZZZ
Yuki-chan!
CLUNK
CLUNK
CLUNK
-ki-chan!
BZZZZZZ
YOU'VE BEEN WORKING HARD
I SEE
S-
Sorry...! My mom is-
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT
IT'S FINE GO SAY GOODBYE TO YOUR MOTHER
BZZZZ
BZZZZ

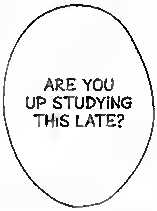
TUG
TUG
Ah!
All right
ZZZZZ
I have to do my best to prove that Yuki-chan isn't bad...!
TAP
TAP
TAP
I'm sorry >_< I have my finals, so I won't be able to make you bentos for awhile (;'I'll do my best to get the top score on my tests!!
Yesterday 10:46
SORRY IT'S A LITTLE BIT EARLY, BUT CAN YOU COME OUT TO THE HALL?
SURE
SNAP
SAKURA-SAN!
...TOP SCORE, HUH

EXCUSE ME
YES,
I'LL BE RIGHT THERE-
HAGIWARA-SAN.
Ah!
UHYES!
Sorry
IT'S ALMOST OUR CLOSING TIME
Uggh, I wish they stayed open just a little later.
もあっ
I'm home...
SFX. WOOM

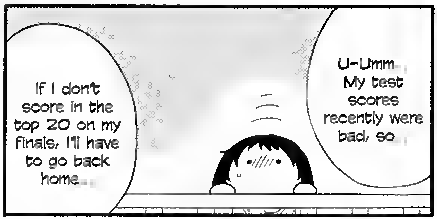
Air conditioning. No, I'll bear it. I'll bear it.
It's so hot
AH!
GGRRR
VRRRRRR
Yesh?
How rare!
Yuki-chan?!
Your light's still on. Are you still up?
SFX. RATTLE

IDIOT, DON'T JUST COME OUT FOR THAT
! I-I'm sorry! I-I'll go to bed now!

HUH?!
YUKI-CHAN, DID YOU JUST GET HOME? YOU MUST BE TIRED!


ARE YOU UP STUDYING THIS LATE?

SWISH
SWISH
SIGH


U-Umm... My test scores recently were bad, so...
If I don't score in the top 20 on my finals, I'll have to go back home...

DID YOUR MOM SAY SOME-THING TO YOU?

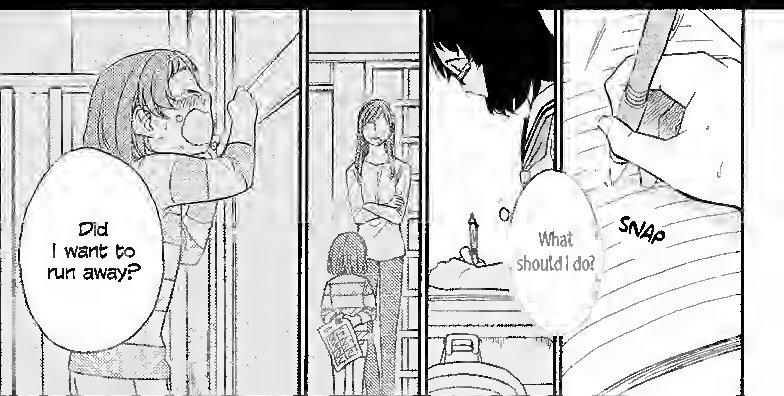
URK...
I SEE RECENTLY, HUH
THAT WAS WHEN YOU WERE WORRIED ABOUT ME AND FOLLOWING ME AROUND, RIGHT?

I-It's okay...! If I get good results, then Mom will forgive me...
IT'S NOT A TRIVIAL THING TO SCORE IN THE TOP 20.
I'll be fine! It worked out with my entrance exams, after all...! If I just give it my all...!
GIVE IT...
?
YOUR ALL...
YOU WERE LIKE THIS BEFORE TOO... WHEN YOU GIVE YOUR ALL, IT'S KIND OF PAINFUL TO WATCH
COULDN'T YOU JUST EXPLAIN IT TO HER PROPERLY WITHOUT
ACCEPTING A CONDITION LIKE THAT?
N-
NO!!
It's no use..
That's...
It's...

WHAT'S WITH YOU?
IS THE REASON YOU DON'T WANT TO GO HOME BECAUSE *YOU'RE SCARED OF YOUR MOM?*
WHY ARE YOU MAKING THAT FACE?
HEY.

I came here because I wanted to help Yuki-chan.
No.
I wanted to be of use to him, because he was always helping me.
COME TO THINK OF IT, MOMO DO YOU REMEMBER SAKURA-SAN
WHO LIVED IN THE APARTMENT NEXT DOOR?

...Even though I'd forgotten him until then?



I don't
Want to go back home...
Was I clinging to those old memories in order to run away...?
I'm scared of her getting mad at me.
Ever since I was a kid, when mom would get mad at me, my body would just freeze.
I was so, so scared of her disappointed expression.
I couldn't meet her gaze, and couldn't breathe.
Still
I just have to do my best

...Sorry.
...Well, I'm always receiving them from her... So once in a while...
I can share some of my dishes
HAGIWARA
DING DOONG
HEEEY, MOMO!
I haven't heard any news since then. Is she okay?
SILENCE
?
IS SHE OUT?
MO-
THUD

Yuki-chan's voice...

I realized that, but...
Yuki-chan was an escape for me.
I told him I came here because of him, but really I came for myself.
...I wonder if I've disappointed Yuki-chan.
Even though I realized it, in the end I...
Sorry...
Sorry...

FOR WHAT?
Yuki...
-chan ...?
CAN YOU SIT UP?
ANYWAY, HERE, DRINK SOME WATER
Is this...
...Yuki-chan's room?
VERRR

Gulp gulp Ah!
DO YOU REMEMBER COLLAPSING FROM HEAT-STROKE?
GEEZ... YOUR ROOM WAS HOT AS HELL.
Ahem
Ah?!
LANDLADY
AND ON TOP OF IT, YOU WERE SAYING NOT TO TURN THE AC ON OR CALL AN AMBULANCE
HM... YOU'RE STILL A LITTLE HOT
GENTLY
SWISH
Nice and cool...
MOMO... DON'T WORRY ME LIKE THAT
SOB
Yuki-chan...
I'm... sorry...

Still, I... I've been causing you so much trouble...
I knew I was just running away, but...
SQUEEZE
For being dishonest and selfishly going overboard...
THAT AGAIN?
ABOUT WHAT?
YOU HAVEN'T
It's just...
So much nicer here...
...IS NORMAL, ISN'T IT?
WANTING TO BE SOMEWHERE COMFORTABLE FOR YOURSELF

IT'S NOTHING TO APOLOGIZE FOR.
Nor...
...Mal?
IF YOU LIKE IT HERE, THEN STAY AS LONG AS YOU WANT.
MOMO, DON'T JUST REFLEXIVELY BE AFRAID
TWITCH
BUT WON'T YOU ALWAYS BE AFRAID THAT IT'S JUST TEMPORARY?
STILL,
YOU MAY GET PERMISSION TO STAY BY COMPLETING YOUR MOM'S REQUIREMENT THIS TIME,
TAP
IS IT REALLY YOUR MOM "NOW" WHO YOU'RE AFRAID OF?
WELL,
...
I HOPE YOU REALLY REGRET OVERDOING IT THIS TIME.

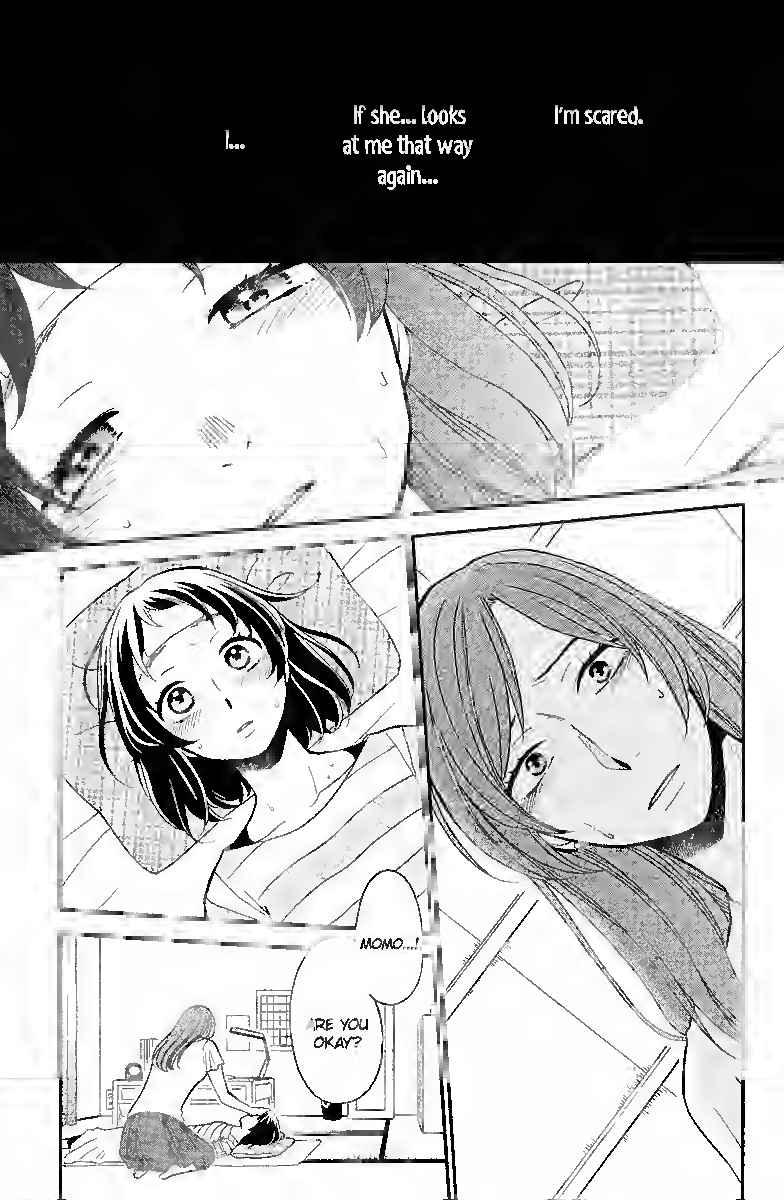
To: MOM
Cc:
Sub:
!!!
SHAKE
SHAKE
SHAKE
I HAVE TO GO TO WORK NOW
COME ON, HAVE YOUR MOM COME AND TAKE CARE OF YOU
B-But I can't let her find out that I collapsed...!
IT'S NOT SO FAR-FETCHED
YOU'RE FAMILY, AFTER ALL.
NOW HOLD YOUR HEAD HIGH AND TELL HER.
BLEED
It's okay...
It's okay...! Yuki-chan...
...Said it's okay for me to stay here!!
Eek!

You've got mail!
Sent
TA-DUNG
FWIP
You've got m-
Bttp
CLACK
OOPS SHE'S EARLIER THAN I EXPECTED
WHAT?!
YOU COULD'VE RUNG THE DOORBELL,
HAGIWARA-SAN

A-Ahem.
I CAME BECAUSE I RECEIVED A MESSAGE FROM SAKURA-KUN BUT...
BUT IF YOU'RE ALL RIGHT THEN IT LOOKS LIKE I'M NOT NEEDED
I'LL LECTURE YOU PLENTY WHEN YOU'RE WELL AGAIN
here's a cold pack and some other things!
MOMO,
WHEN YOU CAN WALK, HURRY AND GO BACK TO YOUR OWN PLACE
AH, WAIT... HAGIWARA-SAN!
TURN
! MOM!
TMP
W-WAIT!
MOM!

WAIT!!
YOU ID...!
!?
SFX DIZZY
あ
URK...!

SIGH
SFX: GRAB
MOMO! MOMOKO!
YOU IDIOT... YOU'RE SO...!
Ahh.
What should I do? She's mad at me again.


I...
If she... looks at me that way again...
I'm scared.
MOMO...!
ARE YOU OKAY?

YOU IDIOT!!!
GONG
Ah...
The- the air conditioning...
RRRRRR
I MEAN.
BURNING A HEAT WAVE LIKE THIS, AND YOU DIDN'T TURN THE AC ON... I'D RATHER YOU LEARN SOME COMMON SENSE INSTEAD OF STUDYING!!
TWITCH
Déjà vu
SFX RUMBLE
UH, YOU MET THE GOAL FOR THIS TERM
YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THE ELECTRIC BILL!
AW.
SWIRL
I'M... SORRY
?

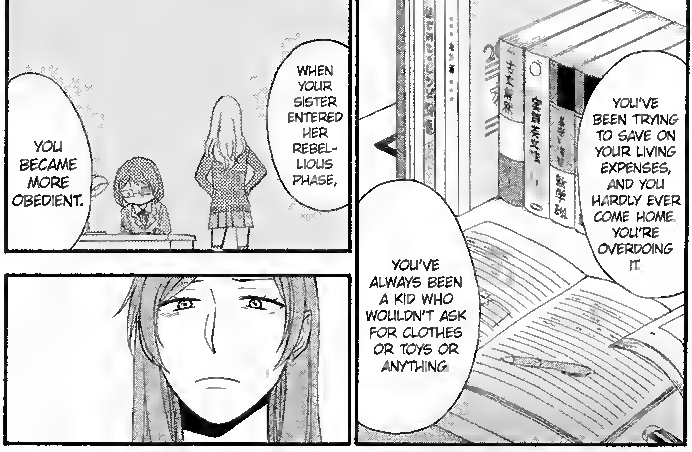
IT'S BECAUSE YOU DON'T CONTACT ME AT ALL!
I ASKED HIM TO PLEASE LET ME KNOW IF ANYTHING HAPPENED TO YOU.
HE WENT TO WORK.
Where's Yuki-chan?
Was she the kind of person who would make that face?
B-By the way, when did you two start...
He has your cell phone number!
MUTTER MUTTER
DAMMIT... NOW I OWE HIM TWICE...
You don't hate Yuki-chan...?
Mom...
ALTHOUGH I TRULY LOATHE THAT FATHER OF HIS WHO ABANDONED HIS RESPONSIBILITY TO HIS FAMILY
I HAVE NO REASON TO HATE SOMEONE WHO WORKED HARD TO TURN HIS LIFE AROUND.

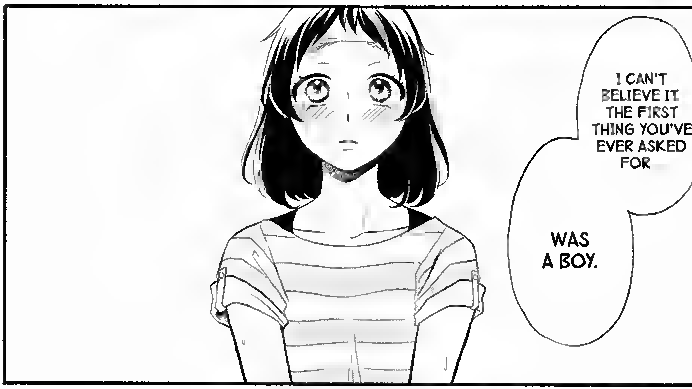
ANYWAY, MOMO,
IF YOU REALLY CAN'T TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF,
THEN YOU CAN'T LIVE ALONE-
MOMO?
H-HEY...
Are you okay?
Mom! I'm sorry, I won't let something like this happen again...
I definitely won't! My studies, my health, all the things I have to do, I won't ignore them!

"Now hold your head high"...
So...
Please let me continue to live here...!
...IS...
TWITCH
IS IT BECAUSE YOU WANT TO RUN AWAY FROM ME?
NO!

IT'S BECAUSE
I FELL IN LOVE!!
Wh-What an impure motive, and you're so blunt about it!
A-At first, I did want to get away from you, mom...
And I wanted to see Yuki-chan again, so I took the exam for this school...!
But Yuki-chan is just as nice as in the past.
And even if I bother him, he still accepts me.

A-At that moment, I...
Just like long ago, he took my breath away.
He said he would stay by my side even if I didn't do my best...
He said I could just be myself...
M-Mom, I... the truth is, I am still scared of you.
So I want to face you, bit by bit...
I also... Think there's more to you now than I'm aware of...
But Yuki-chan said I shouldn't be afraid of an echo, and I should look at my mother in the present
I KNOW YOU STUDIED SO MUCH FOR YOUR ENTRANCE EXAMS THAT YOU MADE YOURSELF SICK.
ENOUGH
.....


WHEN YOUR SISTER ENTERED HER REBELLIOUS PHASE,
YOU BECAME MORE OBEDIENT.
YOU'VE BEEN TRYING TO SAVE ON YOUR LIVING EXPENSES, AND YOU HARDLY EVER COME HOME. YOU'RE OVERDOING IT.
YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN A KID WHO WOULDN'T ASK FOR CLOTHES OR TOYS OR ANYTHING.


I CAN'T BELIEVE IT. THE FIRST THING YOU'VE EVER ASKED FOR
WAS A BOY.

After that, mom and I...
Ate the rice that Yuki-chan made for us together.
?
Ah-choo!

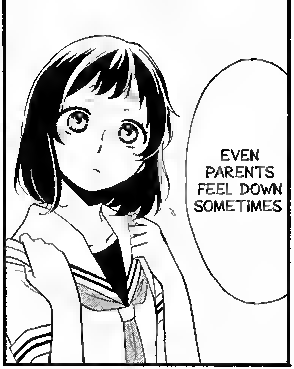
THE OTHER DAY, HE TOLD ME, "I'VE NEVER LOOKED AT MOMO THAT WAY, SO REST EASY."
TH
ROB
CLINK
CLINK
JUST SO YOU KNOW, THIS LOVE OF YOURS PROBABLY WON'T COME TO ANYTHING.
For some reason, mom also seemed depressed.
It was so much more delicious than mine, it made me a little depressed.
Aren't it's good.
It's good.
That's okay.
I don't need anything in return.
I just want to help Yuki-chan be happy.
I saw Mom's smiling face for the first time in a long while.
You're still naive
HA!
LOVE ISN'T SUCH A BEAUTIFUL THING AS THAT.

Studying is necessary to at least get better than the average, and increase my options in the future...
I made it over this hurdle, but I do agree that...
Not exactly
bzzzzz
bzzzzz
SO YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT YOUR TESTS ANYMORE?

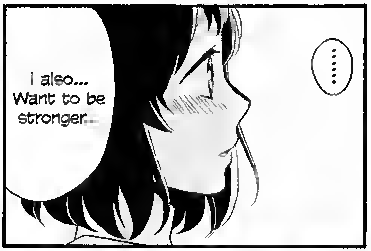
.....
Ah, It's been decided that from now on I will go home once a month
But Mom seemed kind of tired I wonder if I really did overlook a lot of things at home

WELL,
But now I'm not so confident that I was right to do that...
I dropped out of high school myself, and suffered a lot because of it, so I was a bit strict with them...
My older child rebels against me, and my younger child is afraid of me. It makes me afraid to talk to them, even though they're my daughters.

Yuki-chan.
Thanks for yesterday... No, for everything.


EVEN PARENTS FEEL DOWN SOMETIMES

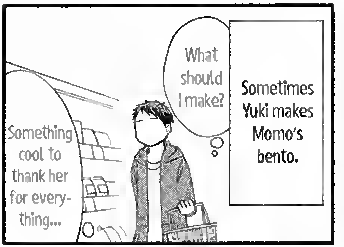
Yuki-chan, umm...

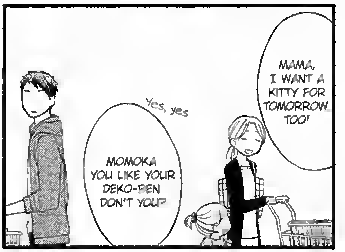

I also... Want to be stronger...

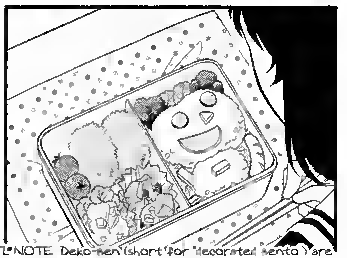
RUSTLE
THERE'S JUST A LOT OF THINGS YOU STILL DON'T KNOW.
!
AND THAT'S OKAY

I LOVE YOU.

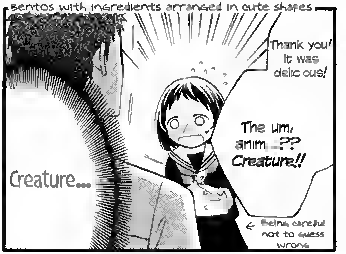
Youth Curriculum: Fine Art



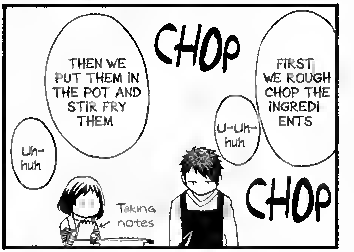


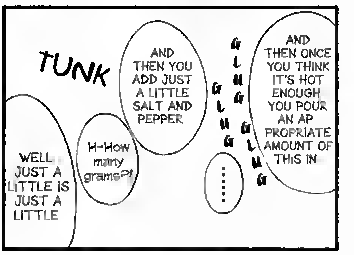


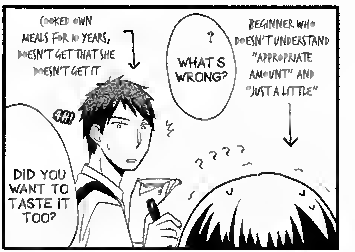
TL NOTE: Deko-ben (short for "decorated bento") are bentos with ingredients arranged in cute shapes



Not reaching you




TUNK
WELL JUST A LITTLE IS JUST A LITTLE
H-How many grams?!
AND THEN YOU ADD JUST A LITTLE SALT AND PEPPER
GLUG GLUG GLUG
AND THEN ONCE YOU THINK IT'S HOT ENOUGH YOU POUR AN APPROPRIATE AMOUNT OF THIS IN


COOKED OWN MEALS FOR 10 YEARS, DOESN'T GET THAT SHE DOESN'T GET IT
WHAT'S WRONG?
BEGINNER WHO DOESN'T UNDERSTAND "APPROPRIATE AMOUNT" AND "JUST A LITTLE"
DID YOU WANT TO TASTE IT TOO?

TO BE CONTINUED

MY FAIR NEIGHBOR
CHAPTER 3

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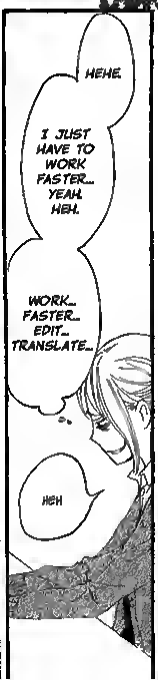
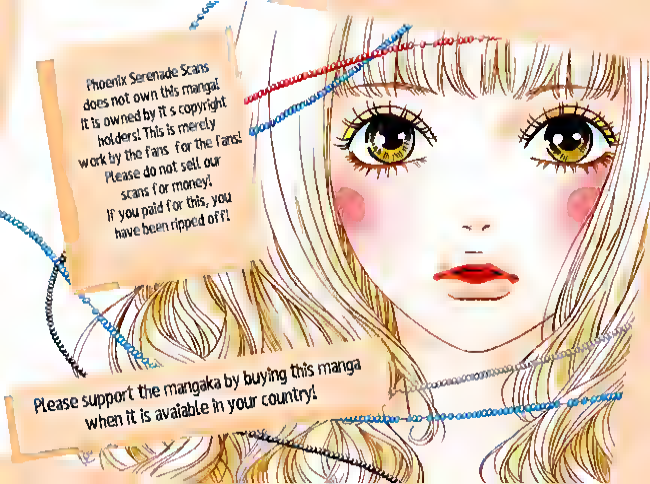
PHOENIX SERENADE SCANS IS RECRUITING!



STOP!
And you get BEST QUALITY!
STOP if you are you reading this chapter on
-mangafox
-mangahere
-mangareader etc/
It's a long story but these guys steal our releases, really! So please read this chapter on
-batoto or
reader.psscans.info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Autumn
Autumn

It's been half a year since the child that used to follow me all over became my neighbor once again.
The summer that seemed so long ended.
MOMO,
HOLD ON TIGHT.
The season is autumn.
clench
Yeah.

BANG
Yeah!
If you're wondering how something like this happened...
SPORTS DAY?

I-I was invited by a classmate but...
Can we go together?
Sunday is a holiday right, Yuki-chan?
Y-Yes!
YEAH BUT WHY ME...
Well
This classmate's father is the district's representative.
And he couldn't find any young people so he's in a dilemma
Maybe Igawa-kun just talked to me because he and I are on the same committee...
pious
W-Well? well...
Ehh?
Yes, a friend... at least I hope he is, but I wonder about that
WAIT, YOU HAD A FRIEND THAT WOULD INVITE YOU LIKE THAT?!!
Huh?
It's the first time I heard about friends!

Thank you Then, I'll make a bento that is more amazing than always!
Well then, about the place,
It's the elementary school, you know
Eh!!
I'LL GO AFTER ALL...
REALLY!?
Apparently his home is that cleaning shop in the 4th district
From the second semester we were both on the gardening committee
But maybe it's hard for Yuki-chan to come. If you can't then I'll go alone
And thus,
I...
...I'm sorry!
shinning
GOAL!!

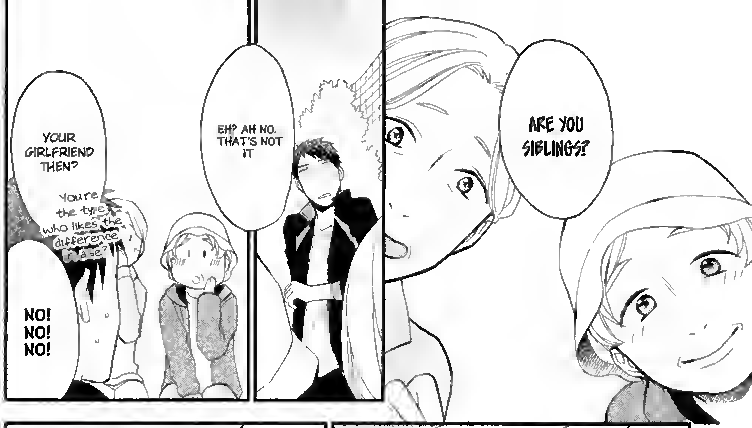
Ah.
Be- Because I used the wrong leg on the stairs we came in last
IT'S FINE DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT ANYWAY IT'LL UNTIE OUR LEGS NOW SO COULD YOU MOVE YOUR HAND?
HAGIWARA-SAN!
Igawa-kun! Y-yes I was fine!
YOU SEEMED TO BE FALLING AT FIRST, WERE YOU ALRIGHT?
THAT'S TOO BAD RIGHT
SURPRISE
Yuki-chan supported me.

GLARE
Ah?
GLARE
We came in last but it seems there is a prize for participating too so I'll go get it!
I... I SEE
STILL OH WELL
UNEXPECTEDLY, HE'S RATHER
DAMN IF I STARE AT HIM LIKE I USED TO BEFORE HE'D FLY IN AN INSTANT
Defeat
So scary.
SO BIG!
WELL, AS LONG AS HE'S HARMLESS...
blush
Yuki-chan!
Igawa-kun!

UH
So you're not having fun after all?
Yuki-chan?
IT WAS AN UNNECESSARY WORRY
IF HE WAS A SUSPICIOUS PERSON, I WOULD HAVE PAID MORE ATTENTION BUT

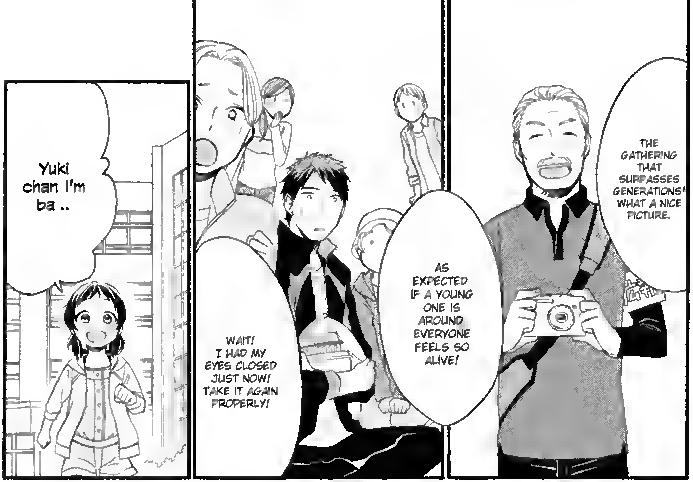
chapter
PRIZE POSSESSION
I'M HAVING MY FILL OF FUN BUT
HAGIWARA-SAN! This is the one we are participating in.
Ah
NEXT, ALL THOSE PARTICIPATING IN THE BALL TOSS GAME PLEASE HEAD FOR THE ASSEMBLY PLACE.
Eh!? No way Yuki-chan this was your school!?
BESIDES, IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE I CAME TO MY OLD SCHOOL SO IT'S NOT BAD

DO YOUR BEST.
Yuki-chan!
REALLY.
THIS... IT'S BEEN A WHILE.


ARE YOU SIBLINGS?
EH? AH NO. THAT'S NOT IT
YOUR GIRLFRIEND THEN?
You're the type who likes the difference in age!
NO! NO! NO!

I'M JUST HER NEIGHBOR.
IS THAT SO! WE'VE NEVER SEEN YOU AROUND HERE SO WE WONDERED WHAT KIND OF RELATIONSHIP YOU HAD
THEN IT SEEMS THAT IGAWA-SAN'S BOY HAS A CHANCE RIGHT?
The whole neighborhood found out
Ah, you're home.
RIGHT.
chatter
chatter

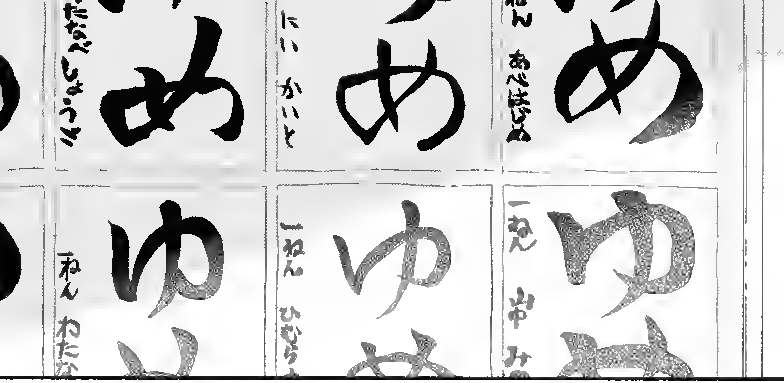
beep
beep
FLASH
!?
Mm, one after the other
AH IF YOU'D LIKE HAVE THIS FOR LUNCH
OUR PLACE IS THE SIDE DISH SHOP FROM THE SHOPPING DISTRICT
EH?
AH THEN HAVE SOME FROM US TOO! OUR RICE CRACKERS ARE DELICIOUS!
EH
One after the other


Yuki chan I'm ba ..
WAIT! I HAD MY EYES CLOSED JUST NOW! TAKE IT AGAIN PROPERLY!
AS EXPECTED IF A YOUNG ONE IS AROUND EVERYONE FEELS SO ALIVE!
THE GATHERING THAT SURPASSES GENERATIONS! WHAT A NICE PICTURE.

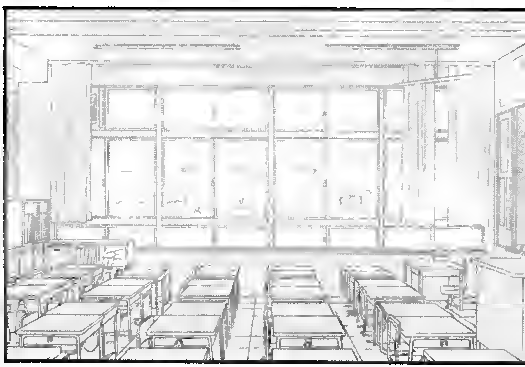
Piled up
okay and cheese!!
EH!!?
MOMO...

push
AH IT HURTS! IT HURTS!
push
push
push
I'M SOR-RY-YY!!
GEEZ. WHAT'S THE MATTER?
hurt...
chew
AH. THIS KINTIRA IS GOOD
Yuki-chan the old lady killer
I also wanted to take a picture with you
shining
PFFT!
HEH HEH.
IDIOT YOU'RE TOO EASY
EH THAT'S NOT... HUH?
You don't have to laugh that much
HAHAHA!

YOU HAVE A CREEPY LAUGH
Hehehe-he
CREEPY!?
As long as Yuki-chan is happy, it's fine
—Ehe
All that feeling is also GOOD!!
……
AFTERNOON GAMES ARE STARTING ALL THOSE PARTICIPATING IN THE OBSTACLE RACE-
THAT'S RIGHT

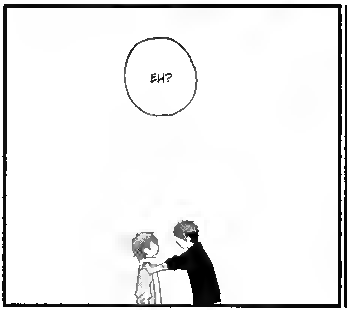


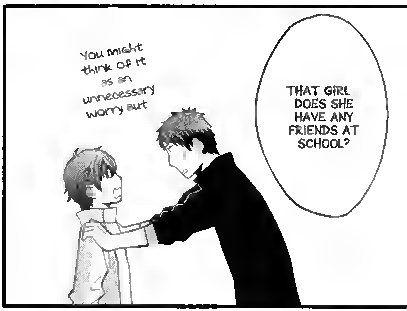
IT'S REALLY NOSTALGIC
NOTHING HAS CHANGED



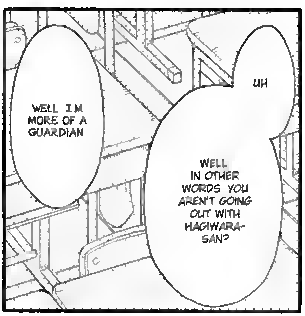
I WONDER IF I WAS THE HAPPIEST BACK THEN
NO
YUKI... SAN!
W-
WE NEED TO TALK!

THUD
Eep!
thud
thud
thud
IT'S.
ABOUT MOMO...
EH!!?
NICE TIMING I ALSO WANTED TO ASK YOU SOMETHING IGAWA-KUN.


EH?


You might think of it as an unnecessary worry but
THAT GIRL DOES SHE HAVE ANY FRIENDS AT SCHOOL?

BECAUSE HAGIWARA-SAN ALWAYS TALKS SO MUCH ABOUT YOU
RATHER LOOKING AT THIS DIFFERENCE IN AGE HOW DID YOU COME TO THAT CONCLUSION?


WELL I'M MORE OF A GUARDIAN
UH
WELL IN OTHER WORDS YOU AREN'T GOING OUT WITH HAGIWARA-SAN?

Is that so
ABOUT FRIENDS... IT'S NOT LIKE SHE DOESN'T HAVE ANY BUT...
IT'S TRUE THAT THERE'S NO ONE THAT SHE GETS ALONG WITH REALLY WELL...
SHE'S NOT IN ANY CLUB EITHER. MAYBE SHE HAS A LOT OF HOUSE WORK AND SHE ALSO RETURNS HOME IMMEDIATELY AFTER SCHOOL
AND WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT SOMEONE LIKE HER?
LI-!
HER FACE ...?
Why does he know that...!!
YOU KNOW YOU SHOULD REALIZE THAT KEEPING YOUR LOVE HIDDEN IS USE
FA-
HER FACE
AH, NO, IT'S THAT BUT... WELL...

His youthfulness makes me blush.
THAT'S WHAT... I STARTED THINKING
AND SHE ALWAYS LOOKS YOU IN THE EYE AND SHE TALKS WITH ALL HER HEART ABOUT EVERYTHING
Mush
We're studying here today too?
Yes, ?, ?
EVER SINCE THE FIRST SEMESTER I THOUGHT HER SMILE WAS CUTE.
THAT'S WHY...
BUT TODAY I REALIZED.
THAT HAGIWARA-SAN'S BIGGEST SMILE IS MEANT FOR YOU!
PLEASE HAVE A MATCH WITH ME!!

NEXT, ALL THOSE PARTICIPATING IN THE ANNUAL FOOT RACE...
Yuki-chan,
Igawa-kun, do your best!
Cheer
WHY AM I DOING THIS?
"YUKI-SAN IS SOMEONE I MUST OVERCOME!"
"THAT'S WHY, IF I BEAT YOU..."

"I'LL CONFESS TO HAGIWARA-SAN!"
LET ME TELL YOU
I'M JUST A NEIGHBOR TO MOMO
THAT'S WHY CONFESSING TO HER, WHETHER YOU WIN OR LOSE DO AS YOU PLEASE. BUT

1st place prize
I WILL NOT GO EASY ON YOU
10 kg of rice
THERE'S ALSO RICE ON THE LINE
OKAY, GET READY..

BANG
That's right. I'm just her neighbor so if I lose here, I...
GO!
FALL

EH?
Seriously?
WHY? WHY DIDN'T I CHECK MY SHOELACES BEFORE?
HEY.
Igawa-kun
mumu

Sheesh.
...IF YOU'RE WEAK WHEN THE TIME COMES, YOU SHOULDN'T NORMALLY PICK A FIGHT.
HURRY AND GET UP
YUKI-SAN
ARE YOU GIVING UP?
AH, NO
I'M SORRY IT'S ALRIGHT LET HIM CONTINUE LIKE THIS.
YOU ALRIGHT?
Y YEAH
THEN, LET'S START AGAIN FROM HERE

FROM NOW ON, DON'T PICK A FIGHT TO DECIDE YOUR MOST IMPORTANT CHOICES
HERE WE GO
NOW!

clap
pant
pant
clap
clap
clap
pant
pant
pant
pant
clap

I have the strength of 30 year old
SHOCK
HUH?
DON'T SCREW WITH ME, I'M NOT DOING THIS AGAIN
WELL... I WANT TO DO THIS MATCH AGAIN AFTER ALL...
YUKI-SAN!
WE STARTED FROM THE SAME PLACE AND RAN AS FAST AS POSSIBLE SO IT WAS A GREAT CONTEST.

I'M SORRY.
IT WASN'T FAIR FROM THE START...!
B-
BUT...
I STILL THINK IT WAS UNFAIR.
I'M A SHORT DISTANCE RUNNER IN THE TRACK AND FIELD CLUB SO I THOUGHT I'LL WIN THIS

I WAS ALSO IN THE TRACK AND FIELD CLUB.

AND NOW THE 23RD SPORTS FESTIVAL WILL...
Igawa-kun.
Do you know where Yuki-chan is?
WELL MAYBE HE WENT TO HELP OUT WITH CLEANING UP...
I see.
HAGIWARA-SAN!
TH
THERE'S SOMETHING I WANTED TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT.

THAT KID... I WONDER IF HE'LL BECOME MOMO'S BOYFRIEND
...MAYBE I SHOULD GO ON AHEAD
AH...
SHE'S NOT COMING BACK...
MOMO'S SIXTEEN.
THAT'S RIGHT.
OH WELL EVEN IF IT'S NOT TODAY THAT DAY WILL COME
I WONDER IF IT WILL ALL END
LIKE THIS

I'm sorry. Shall we go back?
Yuki-chan
...I'm glad you're still here.

YOU'RE STILL WONDERING ABOUT THAT? I HAD SOME FUN ALTHOUGH I WAS CAUGHT UP BY THE OLD LADIES
Yuki-chan.
Did you have fun today?

Hey,
Is it true you were in the track and field club?

FOR REAL?
Ahaha.
It seems like that picture will be in the public relations magazine.

flinch
Eh, It was something from when you were in primary school?
YEAH. IN MY PRIMARY SCHOOL DAYS I WAS IN A GROUP. RATHER, IT WAS A CLUB.
Don't make fun of me.
I WAS THE CLASS ACE WHO ENDED UP GETTING THE POINTS ON SPORTS DAY
THE SPORTS DAY WAS THE DAY MY FATHER WOULD CHANNEL HIS ATTENTION ON ME AND...
MY MOTHER WOULD BUY US CAKE AND WE WOULD CELEBRATE ON THE TRACK FIELD.
Hehe I see
Then, shall I add cake to tomorrow's lunch?
NO, IT'S FINE.

MOMO,
YOU DON'T NEED TO MAKE ME LUNCH ANYMORE
YOU'RE ALSO TIRED AND BETTER OFF NOT DOING THIS ANYMORE RIGHT?
IF YOU HAVE TIME TO MAKE EXTRA FOOD
YOU SHOULD USE IT FOR FRIENDS OR SCHOOL
Yuki-chan!?
GET YOURSELF A BOY-FRIEND AND USE TIME FOR YOURSELF.
?
AH, if it's about Igawa-kun-

"HAGIWARA-SAN'S BIGGEST SMILE..."
SO HE WAS REALLY REJECTED
Igawa-kun is not what you think...! Just now, I properly rejected him...
IT'S MY FAULT RIGHT I SHOULD HAVE SAID THIS EARLIER
IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE HIM.
I'M JUST SAYING TO TURN YOUR EYES SOMEWHERE ELSE
That's right. The fact that it's unfair is something I should say.
It's not a misunderstanding.
BESIDES, IT'S UNHEALTHY TO CLING LIKE THIS TO SOMEONE WHO IS JUST A NEIGHBOR, RIGHT?
IGAWA-KUN ALSO MISUNDERSTOOD. JUST TAKE A BIT MORE DISTANCE.

"YUKI-CHAN, YOU KNOW..."
Because I am really in love with you, Yuki-chan.
Everyone scolded me for saying I love Yuki-chan but...
"I LOVE YOU".
I HAVEN'T SAID 'I LIKE YOU' TO ANYONE BUT YUKI-CHAN...!
I'll silence myself and pretend not to notice the inconvenient things.
And so, I won't feel even a millimeter of guilt.

IT WOULD HAVE BEEN BETTER IF I COULD JUST STAY BY HER SIDE AND PROTECT HER
Yuki-chan,
What can I do to make you say let's go back to how we were?
I...
...CAN'T SEE YOU THAT WAY.
IF YOUR LOVE IS SERIOUS,
WE CANNOT KEEP ACTING LIKE HERE FOREVER.

THE MISINTER-PRETATION OF DIS TANCE?
THAT I KEPT ACTING LIKE WHEN WE WERE KIDS?
WHAT WENT WRONG?
THAT LIKE LONG AGO WHEN I WAS ADORED
WAS I CAPTIVATED BY THE COMFORT...?
I HAVEN'T GROWN ONE BIT.
THE HELL IN THE END
TO BE CONTINUED

MY FAIR NEIGHBOR
CHAPTER 4

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Quality Control: phoenixalia

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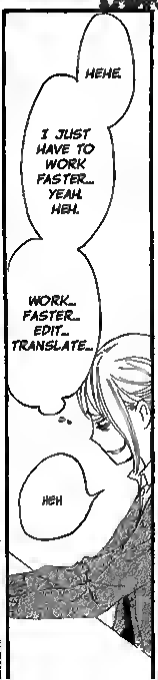

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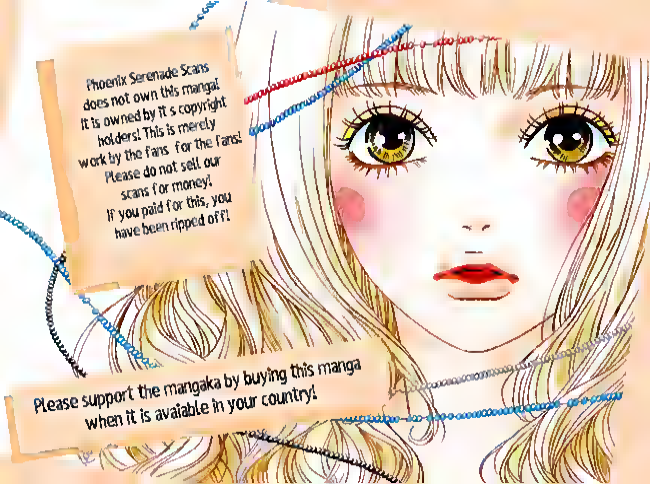
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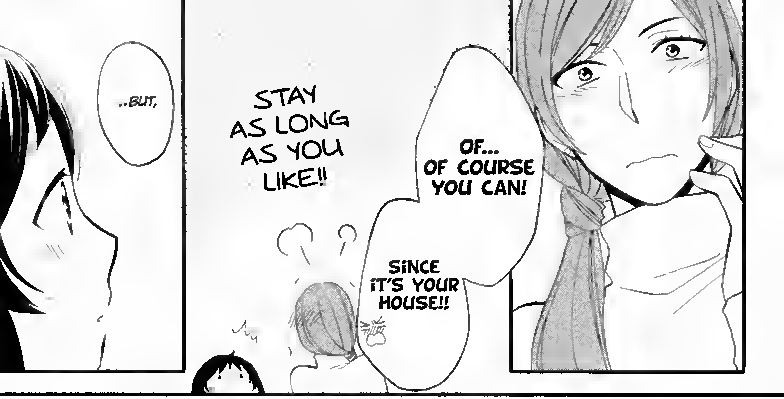
winter
Chapter
(first part)

I...
CAN'T SEE YOU THAT WAY.
MOMO-
LET'S GO GET NEW YEAR'S MONEY FROM AUNTIE!
THUMP

Go by yourself onee-chan...
Huh?
HEY, I WON'T GET ANYTHING IF I GO BY MYSELF.
YOU'RE THE ONE SHE LIKES MORE, YOU KNOW. COME ON, HURRY UP.
SINCE YOU CAME BACK YOU KEEP LOOKING AT THAT NEWSPAPER. WHAT THE HECK IS THAT?
CHIRI,
DAD WILL GO WITH YOU SO TODAY BOTH OF YOU GO AND VISIT
PAPA-
WELL, IF PAPA COMES WITH ME I GUESS IT'S FINE
WHAT YOU'RE STILL DRAGGING THIS ON?
EVEN THOUGH, ACCORDING TO MY INFORMATION IT SEEMS IT HAS BEEN OVER 2 MONTHS SINCE YOU WERE REJECTED BY THE NEXT DOOR NEIGHBOR?
w-why?
FUEHH??

QUITE A WHILE AGO SAKURA-KUN SENT ME AN APOLOGY BY TEXT
HE DIDN'T SAY WHAT IT WAS ABOUT BUT...
ISN'T IT ALRIGHT EVEN IF IT WAS UNREQUITED?
...I didn't understand properly
I thought that, since Yuki-chan also enjoys spending time together
...that even if he didn't love me back, our relationship wouldn't change.
I thought I could always be by his side... but...
For these past 2 months, he has completely avoided me
Ah, well
NOD
...Uhm.
Until the school opening ceremony... can I stay here?



REMEMBER THAT TIME IS LIMITED.

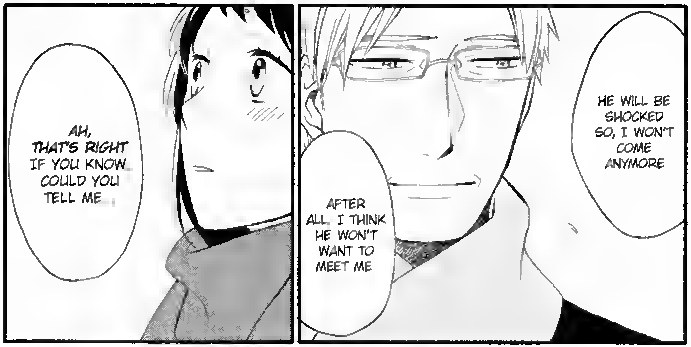
RATHER THAN BEING SCOLDED, MAYBE THE NEWCOMER IS JUST GETTING FRIGHTENED ON HIS OWN.
OH, THE NEWCOMER IS BEING SCOLDED BY SAKURA-SAN AGAIN?
So early in the New Year...
BECAUSE SAKURA-SAN'S FACE IS SCARY.
Uh...
Sorry.
I'm.

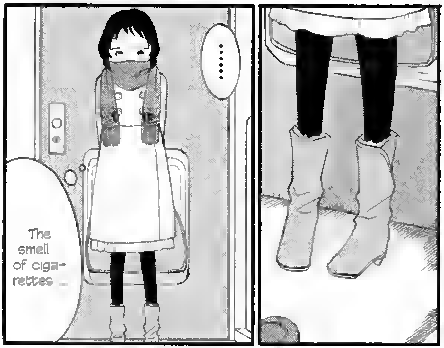
I'VE BEEN THINKING HE'D BECOME MORE GENTLE LATELY THOUGH, I SEE HIM SMILING IN THE BACK ROOM SOMETIMES
If you're no hurt it's fine. Watch it next time
YEEAAH
Yes!!
BY THE WAY!! I THINK IT HAS SOMETHING TO DO WITH THE FACT THAT HE DOESN'T HAVE A BENTOU ANYMORE
THAT'S SOMETHING YOU HAVE TO ASK THE PERSON HIMSELF, RIGHT?
SAKURA-KUN, A MOMENT
SHUTS
HERE,
IT IS A PITY ABOUT LAST YEAR BUT THIS YEAR YOU'RE GOING TO TAKE IT AGAIN RIGHT. THE EMPLOYMENT EXAM?
THIS YEAR I ALSO PUT IN A RECOMMENDATION FOR YOU.

It's okay
Since I came here early today Yeah
?
There's someone in front of Yuki-chan's room
Actually I want to see him, though.

OH YOU ARE
THUD
!
He doesn't seem to be a salesman or a solicitor, but.
Wh-What should I do, should I tell him he's at work?
Eh?
U-um?
Uhm if...
If you wanted to see Yu... Sakura-san, he is probably at work today.
IT SEEMS THAT WAY
I CAME BY MANY TIMES BUT SOMEHOW THE TIMING WAS ALWAYS WRONG
AH EXCUSE ME PERHAPS ARE YOU A CHILD THAT LIVES HERE?
Ah- ye-yes!

Ahh
NO, IT'S ALRIGHT THANK YOU, YOUNG LADY
AH...
If you don't know his contact information, can I... take a message for you?
HE HAS BEEN HERE THE WHOLE TIME...

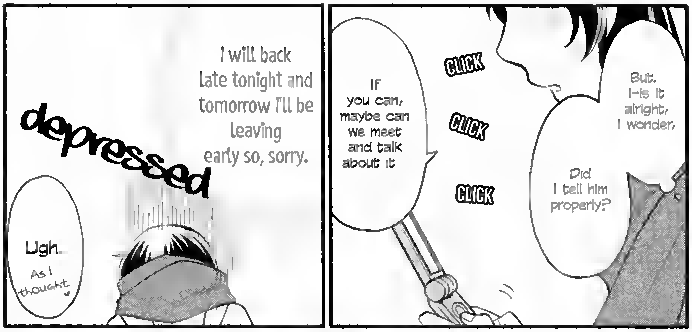

AH, THAT'S RIGHT IF YOU KNOW... COULD YOU TELL ME...
AFTER ALL, I THINK HE WON'T WANT TO MEET ME
HE WILL BE SHOCKED SO, I WON'T COME ANYMORE

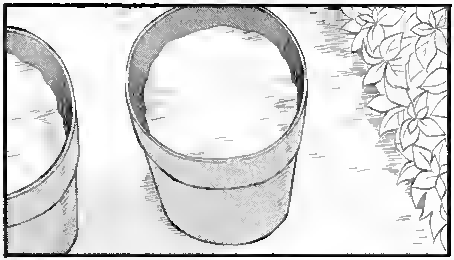

.....
The smell of cigarettes...
YUKINARI... DOES HE LOOK LIKE HE'S HAVING FUN EVERY DAY?

To
Cc
Sub
Today, a man came to visit you Yuki chan He said he won't come see you anymore but he seemed to want to meet you He was a man with glasses that looked a bit like you
His face looks like. .
Yuki chan's.

Well, this is
Eh, y-yeah!
Tell me!
HAGIWARA-SAN HEEY DID YOU GET THE ANSWER TO THE MATH HOMEWORK?
In the end, he didn't reply yesterday

It's still awkward around Igawa-kun
Nothing
SHRUG
It's hard being in love..
HAGIWARA-SAN WHAT'S WRONG?
AH.
I forgot
Wow it's the first time I talked so much with my classmates
DOKI
DOKI
EH?
HAGIWARA-SAN YOU HAVE SOMEONE YOU LOVE!?
WHO, WHO!?
WHAT?
HAGIWARA-SAN'S LOVE STORY!?
I'M INTERESTED!!
!?
BLUSH
I'm sorry for replying late. Thank you for telling me.
.....!
T-two lines...
WOBBLE


depressed
I will back late tonight and tomorrow I'll be leaving early so, sorry.
Ugh.
As I thought.
CLICK
CLICK
CLICK
If you can, maybe can we meet and talk about it
But. I-Is it alright, I wonder.
Did I tell him properly?

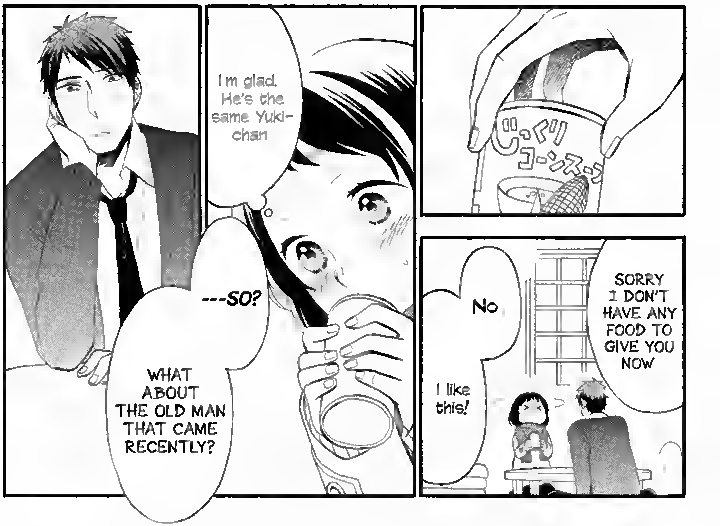


"YUKINARI... DOES HE LOOK LIKE HE'S HAVING FUN EVERY DAY?"

CLICK
SIGH
HUH?

ZZ
ZZ
MOMO
HEY,
MOMO.
Hm?
SIGH
YU-YUKI-CHAN!! WELCOME HOME!
!!
STAND
"WELCOME HOME" IS WRONG...!
MENACING
Wahh, wait a minute!!

Yes...!
GROWL
...GEEZ, WHAT IS IT?
AFTER WE TALK GO BACK HOME...
I'm sorry for trespassing!! It's about yesterday's mail, I wanted to talk about that properly


I'm glad. He's the same Yuki-chan
---SO?
WHAT ABOUT THE OLD MAN THAT CAME RECENTLY?
じゃがりこ コーンスープ
SORRY I DON'T HAVE ANY FOOD TO GIVE YOU NOW
No
I like this!

WASN'T HE A SALES-MAN?
Well It didn't seem like it...
He called you Yukinari so, he's probably Yuki chan's acquain-tance--
...or rather
Wait
Isn't he...
He had the same smell of cigarettes as you and
His face also looked alike and his age seemed appropriate
IT CAN'T BE..
Your father?
NOW, OF ALL TIMES
B-But!
He was worried about whether you were having fun.

U-uhm... I didn't really ask but Yuki chan's father...
HE LEFT.
10 YEARS AGO HE LEFT ME HERE.
BUT...
IT'S SOMETHING THAT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH YOU.
I'M SORRY FOR DRAGGING YOU INTO THIS BUT,
EVEN IF IT'S TRUE, THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO ABOUT IT.
...ARE WE DONE TALKING?
Eh... ...Uh... then...

WHETHER I WANT TO MEET HIM TOO, I DON'T REALLY KNOW
BESIDES, IF HE SAID HE WON'T COME ANYMORE, THERE'S NO WAY TO GET IN CONTACT FOR HIM, THAT'S ENOUGH
IF, NOW, AFTER ALL THIS TIME HE SAYS HE'S WORRIED, I DON'T WANT TO HEAR IT
Since we finished talking,
You can punish me for trespassing!
Then
Then?
I understand

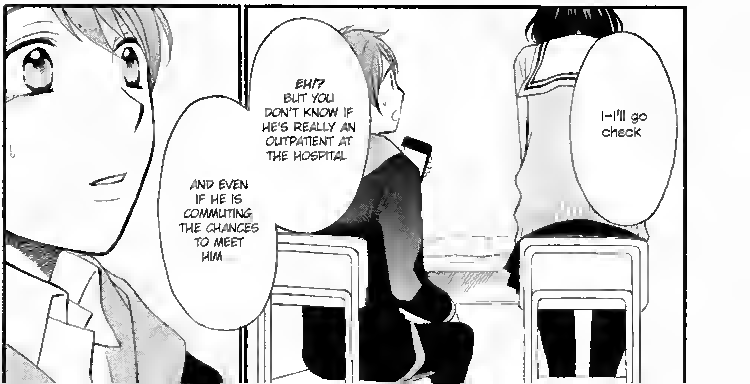
IDIOT.
THANK YOU...
...FOR TELLING ME.

I really...
...do love him after all.
Even though I want him to laugh,
...more and more.
"AH, YOU ARE..."
But it's true there's no way to look for him
And I was told it's not my business
I wonder if he really doesn't want to meet him
. Come to think of it, I wonder if he knew me . ?

Really? Except for Yuki-chan, I didn't recognize right away
the face of my neighbor from 10 years ago
But I don't remember seeing him anywhere else
IGAWA-KUN!!
U-UMM, WELL, THAT
MAYBE YUKI CHAN'S "OLD FRIEND" SAW THIS DAILY NEWSPAPER AND HE CAME TO VISIT HIM?
This is the number from December, and he said 'I came to see him many times' so the period fits perfectly too, right?

WAIT A MINUTE, I BELIEVE THE HOME PAGE HAS
Yeah... Hey, where in the city is this delivered?
YES... BUT THIS IS ONLY DELIVERED TO THIS CITY...
IF HE LIVED SO CLOSE AND ALSO KNEW HIS ADDRESS, WHY DIDN'T HE COME VISIT BEFORE?

THE GENERAL HOSPITAL IN FRONT OF THE TRAIN STATION. EVEN PEOPLE FROM OUTSIDE THE CITY GO THERE.
Hospital?
AH, THIS? THE HOSPITAL!
CITY HALL. SHOPPING DISTRICT.
POLICE OFFICE.


AND EVEN IF HE IS COMMUTING THE CHANCES TO MEET HIM...
EH!? BUT YOU DON'T KNOW IF HE'S REALLY AN OUTPATIENT AT THE HOSPITAL
I-I'll go check

Igawa-kun,
Thank you.
...HAGIWARA SAN!
I'LL ALSO ASK EVERYONE FROM THE SHOPPING DISTRICT SO..
GOOD LUCK!!
..Nod

pant
pant

EXCUSE ME, YOU ARE COMING HERE EVERY DAY BUT....
ARE YOU VISITING?
!
It's really hard and on week days I can only come at night
WOBBLE
I was wrong
JANUARY
JANUARY
JANUARY
15
JANUARY
31
FEBRUARY
1

ACHOO
TREMBLE
That's right, back then, one time...

Amazing.
Even though I thought I'd forgotten, I remembered that!
WHAT ARE YOU GRINNING ABOUT?

HE SAID YOU MIGHT BE HERE EVEN THOUGH IT'S SNOWING.
IGAWA-KUN CONTACTED ME.
YOU TWO... WHAT ARE YOU DOING...

REALLY NOW...
WHY ARE YOU DOING SO MUCH FOR MY SAKE?
SHAKE
...OR ARE YOU STILL 'WORRIED'?
IT'S REALLY SNOWING A LOT RIGHT NOW BUT...
YOU'RE NOT GIVING UP YET...
I'm sorry for doing this on my own, but...
I thought that you actually want to see your father..
You are 'the person I love' but...
That's not all, from the start,

And even now, you're a precious person to me, so...
I don't want you to have a lonely face.
...HERE.
sigh

FOLLOW ME.
HAVE YOU EATEN YET?
Eh? Y-yeah, I ate an onigiri just now.
THEN IT'S ALRIGHT IF WE GET BACK A BIT LATE
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
...IT'S NOT LIKE...

I DIDN'T HOLD IT IN PRETENDING TO BE TOUGH
I REALLY DON'T KNOW IF I WANT TO MEET HIM OR NOT...
I LIVED BY MYSELF AND
I HAD MANY HARDSHIPS AND I EXPERIENCED MANY DIFFICULT THINGS...
I CAME TO REALIZE
AH, FATHER ALSO HAD A HARD TIME WITH THIS, BUT...
BUT...

FOR THE ANGER TO DISAPPEAR OR TO FORGIVE HIM, THAT'S SOMETHING ELSE.
...THAT'S WHY, I'M NOT LONELY OR ANYTHING.
IT'S JUST...

I ALWAYS WORRIED
IF HE HAD DROPPED DEAD SOMEWHERE.
.....?
!
That man...

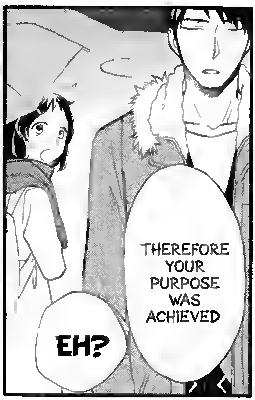
Then... You knew where your father was...?

...So it was really father who came?

I SEARCHED FOR HIM ABOUT A YEAR AGO

MOST OF THEIR WORK IS INVESTIGATING EXTRA-MARITAL AFFAIRS OR MISSING PERSONS CASES
DO YOU KNOW? FOR DETECTIVES, RATHER THAN SOLVING MURDER CASES,

We're going back?


EH?
THEREFORE YOUR PURPOSE WAS ACHIEVED

ACTUALLY, THIS IS FIRST TIME I CAME HERE

Yuki-chan,
Wait!
RING
RING
We're back
Papa

TO BE CONTINUED

MY FAIR NEIGHBOR
CHAPTER 5

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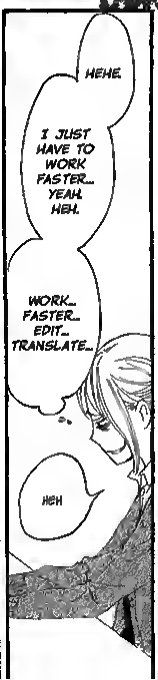

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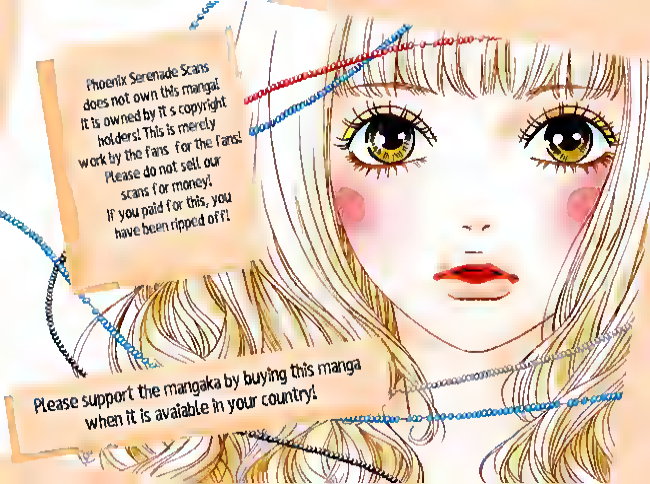
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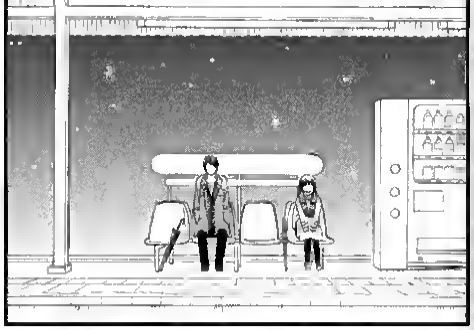
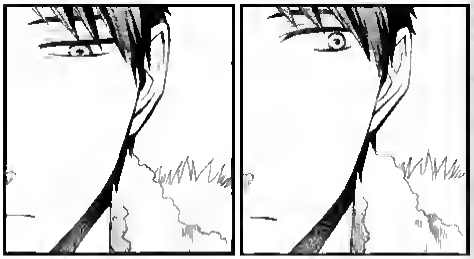
scans for money!
If you paid for this, you
have been ripped off!
Please support the mangaka by buying this manga
when it is available in your country!

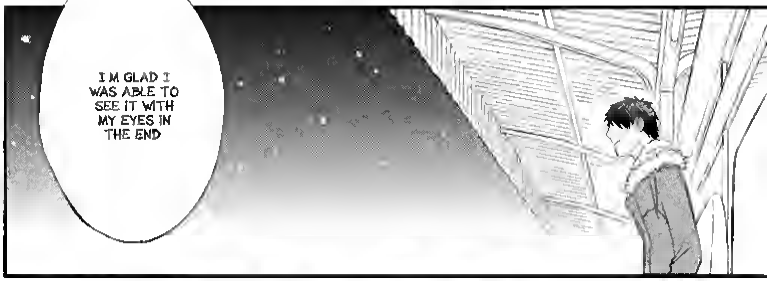
Winter
Chapter
last
part

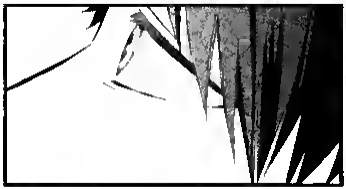
In my first year of high school, the company my father worked for went bankrupt and in my second year my mother left the house.
My father's earnings, who could not even find decent part time work, were not enough for us to survive, so I started working too.
When I dyed my hair to hide my age, I got a real scolding and got beaten.
That day was the first time I hit my father back.

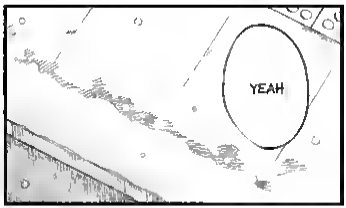




MOMO.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT ANY-MORE
FATHER... I KNEW HE HAD A NEW FAMILY


I M GLAD I WAS ABLE TO SEE IT WITH MY EYES IN THE END




YEAH

in the end...?

I TOOK THE EXAM FOR A FULL TIME EMPLOYEE
Oh! Co- Congratulations!!
THANK YOU
SO I'VE BEEN TRANSFERRED TO A RURAL SHOP
THAT'S WHY
I'M GOING TO LEAVE THAT ROOM
MY DEPARTURE WILL BE NEXT WEEK FOR US TOO,
THIS REALLY WILL BE GOODBYE

Are you sure about this?
IS SHE CRYING?
...
Hehe.
I TOLD YOU I'M FINE
THERE'S NO LONGER ANY MEANING TO ME IN STAYING IN THAT ROOM
NOW IT'S NOT LIKE 10 YEARS AGO
Because.. you've lived in that room for the past 10 years..

I DON'T WANT THAT!

You're wrong...
For you to leave by yourself and act as if nothing's wrong...
There's no way you're fine just because you've become an adult...
There's no way you aren't hurt—
I don't want that...

pat
pat
WHY WON'T THINGS TURN OUT WELL?
—AS I THOUGHT, SHE'S CRYING
I THOUGHT I BECAME AN ADULT WHO WON'T MAKE HER CRY ANYMORE
LET'S STOP THIS.
I WON'T BE ABLE TO LET GO

A father who raised his hand at his son when talked back to...

And me who couldn't endure my irritation and blamed my father for everything.

Now that I think about it, what was what back then?

Because now, our family was just the two of us.
I also thought I should live and watch out for this father of mine no matter how discontent I was.
But no matter the fight, the next day we would go back to normal.
No, I didn't want to believe.
That's why I believed he would come back one day...

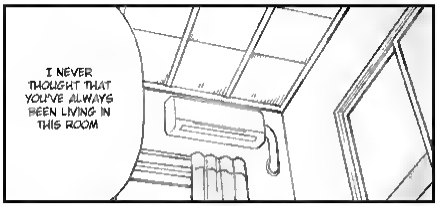
I...
I didn't want to believe that I was being thrown away again.
Northern
In this room, this was the life that I had.

Uhuhu...
...n't die,
don't die,
Waaaah!
Yuki-chan!
I GUESS I'M ALMOST DONE CLEANING UP
yawn

clack
YES?
WHO IS IT-
FROM NOW ON, THIS ROOM
ring

Sigh...
WAS IT MOMO?
OH? SO SHE'S CALLED MOMO, THAT GIRL
DON'T YOU REMEMBER? SHE'S THE KID THAT LIVED NEXT TO US 10 YEARS AGO
IS THAT SO
I DON'T REALLY REMEMBER
AT THAT TIME EVERY DAY I FELT LIKE I WAS DYING

AT FIRST I JUST WANTED TO KNOW IF YOU WERE WELL BUT...
.....
WHY DID YOU COME HERE?


I NEVER THOUGHT THAT YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN LIVING IN THIS ROOM

—YUKINARI
HOW IS YOUR LIFE NOW?

BY CHANCE... I FOUND THE ARTICLE THAT HAD YOUR PICTURE IN IT.
I THOUGHT 'MAYBE HE STILL LIVES AROUND HERE

YOU KNEW ABOUT IT?
NO WELL
THOSE KIDS ARE 'HER' CHILDREN
WHAT ABOUT YOU, YOU GOT REMARRIED AND EVEN HAD KIDS?

THEY GAVE ME A JOB AND A PLACE TO LIVE
THEY SAID THAT IF I WANTED TO DIE ANYWAY WHY NOT HELP FOR A BIT
AS I WAS LOITERING AROUND WITH NO POWER TO LIVE
SHE AND HER PARENTS TOOK ME IN AND SAVED ME

I BELIEVE THIS IS AN UNPLEASANT TALK FOR YOU
IF YOU WANT TO HIT ME, HIT ME
THAT'S ...
...AMAZING LUCK.

I ALSO WASN'T A GOOD SON.
PARENTS ARE ALSO HUMANS SO THERE ARE ALSO THINGS THEY CAN'T BEAR.
...I WON'T HIT YOU.
YOU'RE WRONG.
I THOUGHT THAT IF I WEREN'T THERE, YOU'D LIVE MORE FREELY SO I LEFT
A FATHER BEING SUPPORTED BY HIS SON, WOULD BE NOTHING BUT A BURDEN TO YOU.
DID YOU ALWAYS BELIEVE THAT? I THOUGHT—

"Not saying anything just because it would be an excuse? That's just self-satisfaction!"
"Please properly tell him your real feelings... and even if he won't be satisfied..."
I CAME HERE TO TELL YOU THAT
I DON'T BELIEVE THIS IS ENOUGH FOR YOU TO BE SATISFIED
BUT THAT GIRL...
'AT LEAST YOU WILL FEEL RELIEVED' IS WHAT SHE SAID.
I DON'T WANT YOU TO FORGIVE ME. EVEN NOW, I DON'T KNOW IF WHAT I DID WAS RIGHT OR WRONG.
From: NANA
Sub: WAS IT OKAY AFTER THAT?
Ah!

IF THINGS STAYED THAT WAY, I'M SURE I WAS...
...AFRAID THAT YOU WOULD NO LONGER LOVE ME.
KASK

CLENCH
Slam

Sigh
FOOD MART
Heave-ho
Oof!

Yuki-chan...?
Pant
Pant
Pant
I DON'T KNOW...
I JUST FELT LIKE MOVING
What's wrong?
You'll catch a cold that lightly dressed.
Haa...
Ah! P-Perhaps, is it about your father...?
Eh!?
U-uhm, in any case this...
Rage?
Rumble
Rumble
WAS IT RAGE...
WAS IT CONFU-SION...?

YOU REALLY...
YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND A THING
grab
I'm sorry I did something unnecessary again
NO
THAT'S WRONG I DIDN'T SAY IT TO YOU SO IT'S OBVIOUS YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND
ABOUT MY FATHER I AM HAPPY I LISTENED TO HIM.
BUT EVEN IF YOU HADN'T DONE THAT, I WOULD HAVE BEEN ALRIGHT
I DIDN'T LIE WHEN I SAID I'M ALRIGHT
"YUKINARI..."
"IS THERE SOMETHING THAT I CAN DO...?"

YOU... ABOUT FINDING SOMEONE NEW AND BEING ABLE TO SMILE HAPPILY, WE'RE THE SAME.
I, TOO, HAD SOMEONE LIKE THAT.
.....
WE ARE BOTH LIVING OUR OWN LIVES NOW AND...
THERE REALLY ISN'T ANYTHING. I'M ALREADY 2L.
HEY,
AH, YES...
HOW MANY YEARS HAS IT BEEN SINCE WE TALKED NORMALLY LIKE THIS, I WONDER.
LIVING HERE...
—BECAUSE
YOU WERE HERE.
It wasn't so bad.

EVEN THOUGH I WAS LEFT ALONE IN THAT ROOM.
EVEN THOUGH I KNEW MY FATHER HAD A NEW FAMILY.
BECAUSE YOU SEARCHED FOR ME...
I WAS ABLE TO STAND.
—IT'S ALRIGHT NOW.

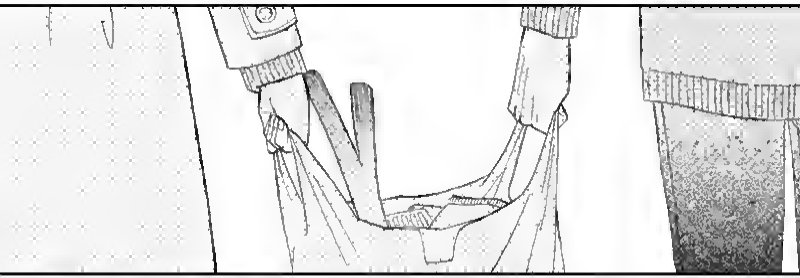
THANK YOU FOR EVERYTHING UNTIL NOW,
MOMO.

I'M GLAD I WAS ABLE TO BEFORE I LEFT.
I ALWAYS WANTED TO TELL YOU THIS...
IT'S PATHETIC
I was also always supported by Yuki-chan.
I love you so.
I want us to be together more...
As I thought, separating like this is too sad.
No!
Wait!

WHAT SHOULD I DO?
hic
hic
IDIOT. YOU'RE...
sob
sob
Waaaaaah!

It's not love.
But she's dear to me.
I don't want to let go, but I have to let go.

Compared to "like", it's a much more troublesome feeling.



I'll make many friends and work and learn many things.
Seductiveness?
And I'll study about seductiveness.
I will become much better at cooking.

I will become a strong adult able to support Yuki-chan so...
If I do that, then maybe Yuki-chan will start loving me...

Well, because...
Am I too persistent?
YOU DON'T REALLY GET DISCOURAGED HUH?
For example...
FAMILY
If Yuki-chan and I became a family, then we'll always be together...

Being by their side when they're sick.
A voice that welcomes you home.
Eating meals with someone.
And sometimes shopping together.
And returning...

To the same place.

Yuki-chan!?
AH, NO
I JUST REALIZED SOMETHING I SHOULDN'T HAVE...
Starting tomorrow...
You really won't be here.
But I'll come visit you so

This past year, I was really really happy to be Yuki-chan's neighbor.
Thank you.
Have a nice trip.
I hid in my heart a slight premonition.
Till the end, was I a praiseworthy adult?

The next day, Momo no longer cried, and I put that room behind me.

chatter
OK!
NOW WHO'S GOING TO THE SECOND ROUND—!
chatter
ME!
chatter
ME TOO!
SORRY, I'M GOING BACK FOR TODAY.
EH— MANAGER, YOU'RE GOING BACK?
No! Don't go!
I PROMISED SOMEONE THAT I'D MEET THEM TOMORROW MORNING.
OH MANAGER DID YOU FINALLY GET A GIRL-FRIEND?
TOMORROW, THOSE WITH A MORNING SHIFT, DON'T FORCE YOURSELVES
I WONDER ABOUT THAT. I DON'T KNOW MYSELF.
Ooh!

Oooh! Manager, good luck!
CLACK
THAT IDIOT
!
step
step

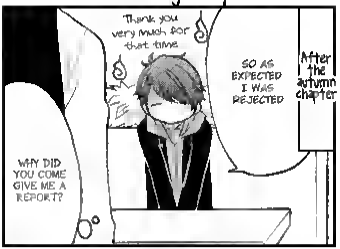
rumble
Ah!
Ah, I mean... sorry
YUKI-CHAN, WELCOME BACK!
MAYBE YOU'VE MADE PROGRESS A BIT BY NOT ENTERING MY ROOM ON YOUR OWN
I'm used to it
...I'm sorry
Because...
I wanted you to meet the 20 year old me sooner

MOMO...
AH, THAT'S RIGHT AND...
OK!
ANYWAY GET INSIDE YOUR HANDS ARE COLD.

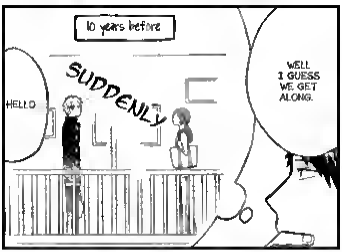
《 THE END 》

my fair
neighbor
The story about a cosplayer
that we want dear
megumi morino

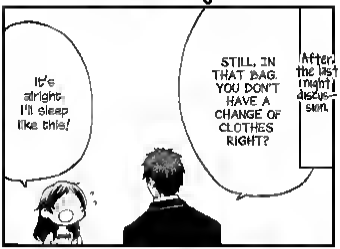
After this I changed my address



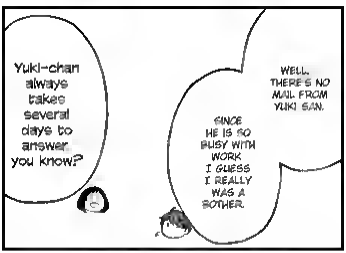
Mail 1

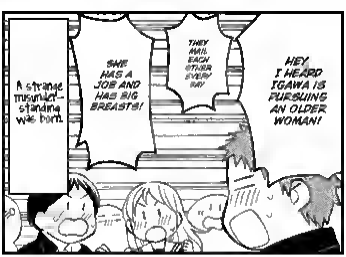


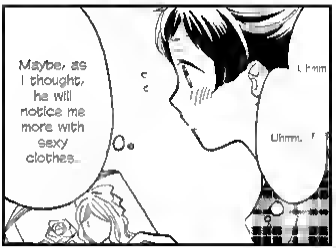
It's still not right

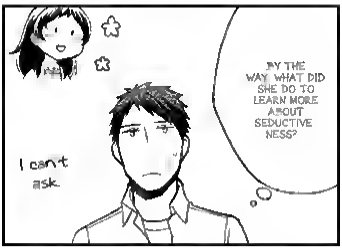


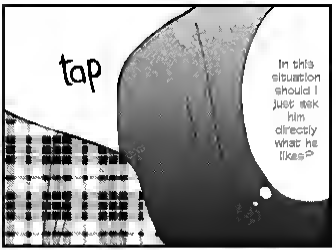
Mail 2


Yuki-chan always takes several days to answer, you know?
SINCE HE IS SO BUSY WITH WORK I GUESS I REALLY WAS A BOTHER.
WELL, THERE'S NO MAIL FROM YUKI SAN.

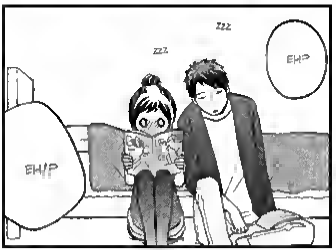

A strange misunder- standing was born.
SHE HAS A JOB AND HAS BIG BREASTS!
THEY MAIL EACH OTHER EVERY DAY
HEY, I HEARD IGAWA IS PURSUING AN OLDER WOMAN!

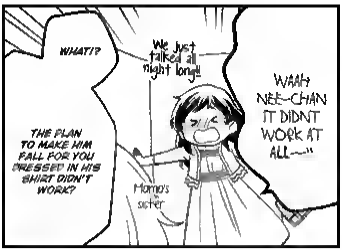

Maybe, as I thought, he will notice me more with sexy clothes...
Uhmm.
Hmm

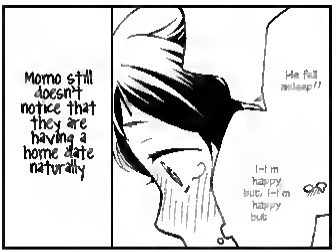

I can't ask.
BY THE WAY, WHAT DID SHE DO TO LEARN MORE ABOUT SEDUCTIVENESS?

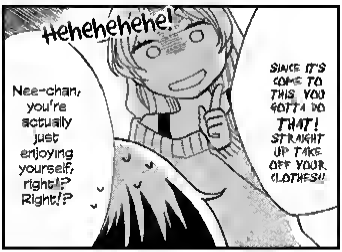

tap
In this situation should I just ask him directly what he likes?

NO. FOR MOMO TO DO THAT
But I can't ask.
DID SHE GO OUT WITH SOMEONE ONCE...?


ZZZ
ZZZ
EH?
EH!?


WHAT!?
We just talked all night long!
WAAh NEE-CHAN IT DIDN'T WORK AT ALL~!!
THE PLAN TO MAKE HIM FALL FOR YOU DRESSED IN HIS SHIRT DIDN'T WORK?
Momo's sister


Momo still doesn't notice that they are having a home date naturally
He fell asleep!!
I-I'm happy but, I-I'm happy but


Hehehehehe!
Nee-chan, you're actually just enjoying yourself, right!? Right!?
SINCE IT'S COME TO THIS YOU GOTTA DO THAT! STRAIGHT UP TAKE OFF YOUR CLOTHES!!

SPECIAL THANKS to

~Sugeno ~Kyanko~San
~Tsuru~chan ~Yuri~San
~Onga~San ~Manager Y~San

Those who supported me
Friends and family
Thank you very much!!

My Fair Neighbor

END.